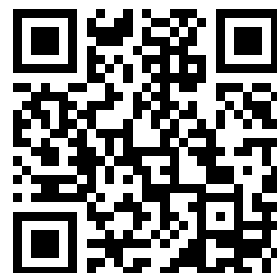


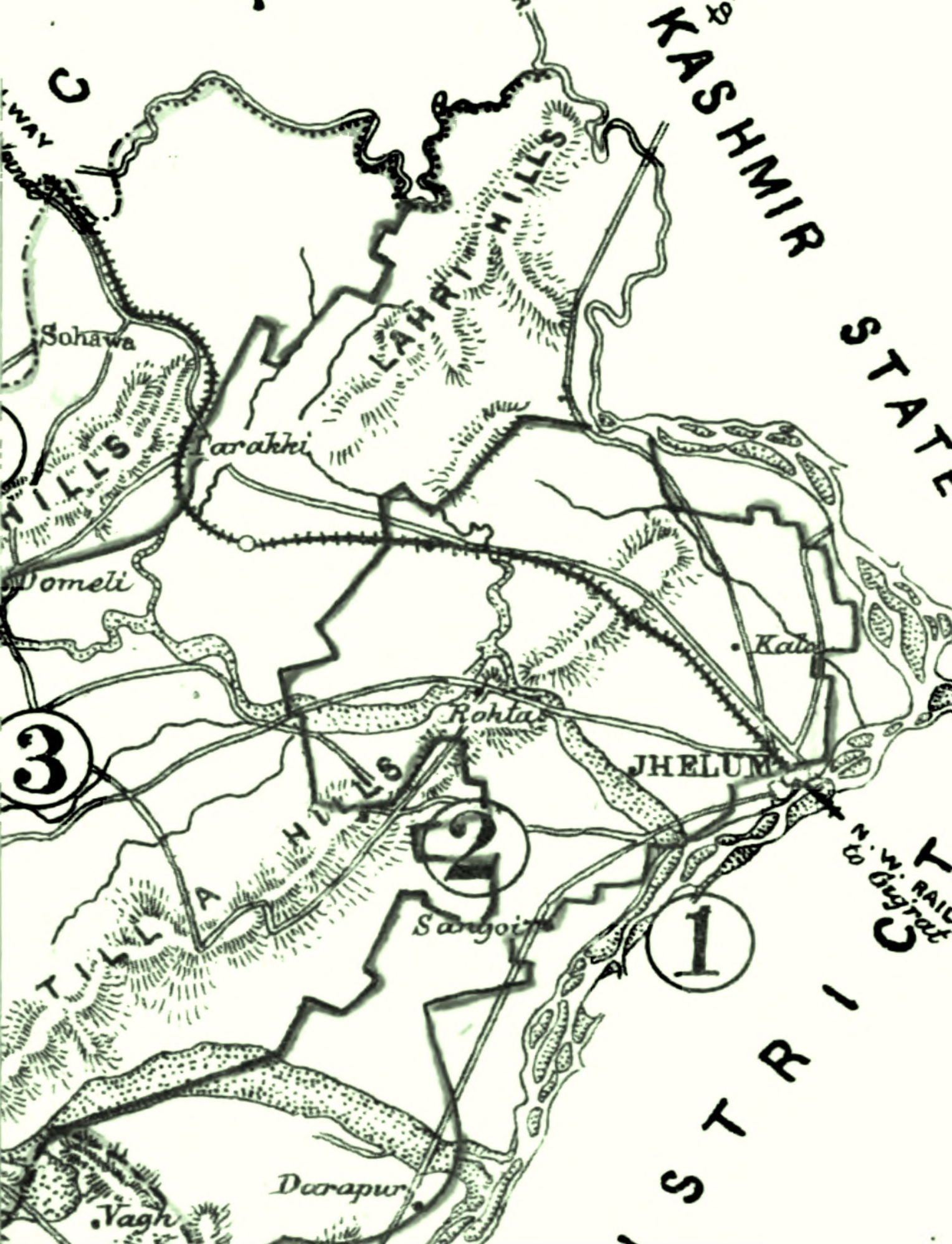
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## *Final report of the revision of the settlement of the Jhelum ...*

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FINAL REPORT  
OF THE  
REVISION OF THE SETTLEMENT  
OF THE  
JHELUM DISTRICT  
IN THE  
PUNJAB, *Settlement officer.*  
BY  
W. S. TALBOT, Esquire, C.S.,  
*Settlement Collector.*  
1895-1901.

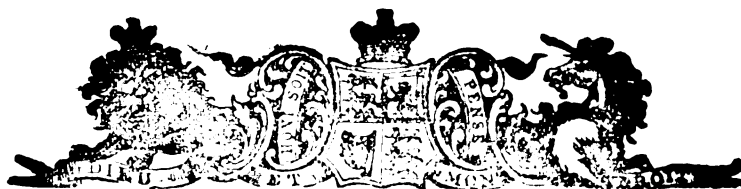
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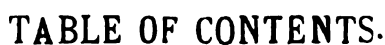
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# FINAL REPORT OF THE REVISION OF THE SETTLEMENT, 1895—1901 OF THE JHELUM DISTRICT.

## CHAPTER I—DESCRIPTIVE.

1. A map is appended showing the general configuration and boundaries of the Jhelum District; it has an average length from east to west of 110 miles, and an average breadth of 36; its area by the recent patwáris' survey is 3,959 square miles.\* Its principal physical features are the river, the hills and the ravines.

General description.

2. The Jhelum River skirts the district on the east and south for a distance of about 120 miles; for the first 12 or 15 miles it has still the character of a mountain torrent, narrow, deep and impetuous, but when the plains are reached a change occurs, and by the time that Jhelum Town is passed, it has and thenceforward retains, the characteristics of the large rivers of the Punjab Plains; a comparatively small stream in a wide bed, completely filled only in heavy flood, on the average some two miles in breadth, though a somewhat wider zone is indirectly affected by percolation. The floods in the river are often very sudden, and sometimes do considerable damage to crops and harvested produce. Its waters are rich in fertilising silt, the Jhelum in this respect holding a high place amongst the rivers of the Punjab, but it is a mistake to suppose that its floods have at all times this characteristic. The tendency of the river to work westwards, to the detriment of the land of this district on its right bank, is marked and persistent, though liable to temporary intermission here and there; nowhere in this district is there land which was subject to the action of the river floods within recent generations, but is now removed from their influence.

The Jhelum River.

3. The hills of the Salt Range, skirting the southern border of the Tallagang Tahsil, enter the district on the western boundary of the Pind Dádan Khán Tahsil, and run through it from west to east; then dividing into two separate ranges, Nílí, (with Lehrí), to north and Tilla to south, traverse the Jhelum Tahsil, completely intersecting it in the north, and in the south failing by a few miles to reach the eastern boundary. In Pind Dádan Khán the hills are from 2,500 to 3,701 feet in height; they consist of two roughly parallel ranges about 6 miles apart, supporting between them at an elevation of from 2,000 to 3,000 feet a series of fairly level uplands, richly cultivated and supporting a dense population; to the south the range presents a monotonous line of parched and barren slopes, descending abruptly to the plain; the northern face towards the Chakwál Plateau is generally less steep, and is in parts fairly well clothed with brushwood. The subsidiary ranges of the Jhelum Tahsil consist, for the most part, of narrow isolated ridges or parallel ridges running east and west, and are of comparatively small importance, though the highest peaks attain a height not far short of that of the hills of the Salt Range proper.

The hills.

4. No account of the Jhelum District would be complete without some notice of the ravines and torrent beds with which its surface is seamed in every direction; in the Pind Dádan Khán Plain the drainage channels, (*kassí*), though of no great length, are of much importance agriculturally; like all other torrents in the district they are ordinarily

Ravines and torrents.

\* The area according to the survey of 1851-59 is 3,896 miles, but this is said to be approximate only.



dry, or nearly dry, but after good rain in the hills they come down in heavy flood, the water being drawn off by an elaborate system of embankments to irrigate the thirsty soils of the submontane villages, little of it ever reaching the river; the lower hills are full of salt and the first off-scourings are so bitter as to do harm rather than good, but on the sweeter flood-water that follows the success of the cultivation of the western plain almost entirely depends. In the northern plateau the torrents which take their rise in the hills, and make their way, generally with remarkable directness, to meet the Sawán River, run usually in deep and narrow channels, walled in with sandstone rock, and have little influence on the cultivation except where now and then they broaden out, and bays of low-lying land offer favourable sites for wells; in the Jhelum Tahsil also the drainage channels are partly of this character, but where they enter the more open country near the river, they spread out to a great width, and cause constantly increasing damage to the land on their banks, by sand-drift as well as by actual erosion; the largest of them all, the Bunhá, has in some places a width of about two miles of worse than useless sand. Apart from the large drainage channels, the minor ravines, (*khuddar*), force themselves on the attention of the traveller in almost all parts of the tract, and reach their climax in the well-named Khuddar Circle of Jhelum, which is in a small way about as rough a piece of country as could be found anywhere: in this circle particularly, but everywhere more or less, much good land is formed by the costly and laborious method of throwing embankments across the smaller ravines.

5. From the above description it may have been gathered that the district consists of three main divisions: first, to south, a belt of low-lying almost level alluvial plain, part of the valley of the Jhelum; second the hills of the Salt Range including not only the uplands of the Pind Dádan Khán Tahsil, but also the subsidiary ranges of the Jhelum Tahsil, and the somewhat elevated broken country between them; lastly, the plateau north of the hills, a tract with an average height of 1,500 or 1,600 feet; in its general aspect undulating or nearly level, but cut up at frequent intervals by ravines.

The arrangement of Assessment Circles follows these natural divisions; the plains, wholly situated in the Jhelum and Pind Dádan Khán Tahsils, form five circles, the River Bank Circle of each Tahsil being more or less what its name implies; the rest of the plain in the Jhelum Tahsil forms one circle, Maidán; and in Pind Dádan Khán two circles, Phaphra and Thal, both in the strip of country at the foot of the hills, and of the same general character, though the former is much the best of the two. The second division, the hills, includes the circle of that name in Pind Dádan Khán, comprising the whole of the Salt Range in that Tahsil: the corresponding circle in Jhelum is the Khuddar, or raviny tract between the Nílí and Tilla Hills. The third division, the northern plateau, includes the small Pabbí Circle in Tahsil Jhelum north of the Nílí Range, and the whole of the Chakwál and Tallagang Tahsils, which do not readily lend themselves to division for assessment purposes, and are therefore somewhat arbitrarily split up into three circles according to past or present administrative divisions; Chakwál takes two of these, Lúndí Pattí to east, and Dhanní to west, while the third consists of the whole of Tallagang.

These Assessment Circles were arranged by Colonel Wace at the second regular settlement, and although their boundaries are not in every case placed exactly where it seems right, it would be difficult to improve on them by any general re-arrangement, and no change has been made at the present revision.

The general characteristics of the different circles will be dealt with in more detail in the chapter on assessment.

6. There are four rain-gauge stations, one at the head-quarters of each of the Tahsils; the average rainfall\* is as follows:—Jhelum 23 inches, Pind Dádan Khán 16½, Chakwál 17, Tallagang 18. About two-thirds of this occurs in the four months, June to September.

Rainfall.

\* As supplied by the Meteorological Department, from the statistics completed up to 1900.

The rain-gauge stations at Jhelum and Tallagang are situated on the extreme east of those Tahsils, and the rainfall recorded at them is much heavier than that of the tracts which they represent, for it is well known that the rainfall decreases rapidly as one goes westwards away from the Himalaya; the Pind Dádan Khán Gauge also is a correct guide to the rainfall of only a small part of that Tahsil, the central part of the plain. The average rainfall may be taken to be somewhat as follows :—

Tahsil Jhelum, eastern Chakwál, and the east and central Salt Range ... ..	22 inches.
Chakwál West, Tallagang East, the eastern half of the Pind Dádan Khan Plains, and the west of the Salt Range	18 „
Tallagang West ... ..	15 „
The Pind Dádan Khán Thal, (western plains) ... ..	12 „

For the district as a whole the rainfall is somewhat scanty, and very uncertain, varying very greatly from year to year.

7. The climate of the district is good; in the hills though it can hardly be called temperate, the heat is never extreme, while the adjoining submontane tract is one of the hottest parts of the Punjab; the rest of the district has the ordinary climate of the western Punjab Plains; excessive heat for half the year, with a long and bracing cold weather, and the usual feverish seasons; here and there guinea-worm, due to bad drinking water, also interferes with agricultural operations.

In the winter a bitter north wind prevails in the Salt Range and the northern plateau, and the cold is often severe; light snow in the hills is not very uncommon, and once or twice in a generation a heavier fall extends to other parts of the district.

## CHAPTER II—STATISTICS.

8. The following are some of the leading statistics by Tahsils—

DETAIL.	DETAIL OF TAHSILS.				
	District.	Jhelum.	Pind Dádan Khan.	Chakwál.	Tallagang.
Total square miles (1900-01) ... ..	3,959	891	874	999	1,195
Cultivated, square miles „ ... ..	1,608	322	313	508	465
Culturable, square miles „ ... ..	295	51	81	52	111
Irrigated, square miles „ ... ..	46	4	32	5	5
Average square miles, under crop (1892-93 to 1899-1900) ... ..	1,141	230	218	377	316
„ (1892-93 to 1899-1900) excluding two years' scarcity ... ..	1,311	265	251	437	358
(1896-97 and 1899-1900).					
Annual rainfall, in inches (1896-97 to 1899-1900) ... ..	22.63	29.29	16.3	24.32	20.6
Number of inhabited towns and villages (1901) ... ..	978	439	206	248	85
Total population ... ..	594,018	170,984	170,119	160,316	92,599
Rural population ... ..	553,029	156,031	155,943	148,456	92,599
Urban population ... ..	40,989	14,953	14,176	11,860	...
Total population per square mile (1901) ... ..	150	192	195	160	77
Hindús per cent. on total ... ..	8	6	12	7	1
Sikhs „ ... ..	3	3	1	5	8
Musalmánés „ ... ..	89	91	87	88	91
Gross final fixed land revenue (1901-02) ... ..	918,987	232,538	243,644	282,960	159,848
Net khálsa land revenue ... ..	873,773	226,459	227,821	273,259	146,254

Areas : Increase in cultivation.

9. The area of the district is divided as follows :—

	Per cent.
Cultivated ... ..	41
Culturable waste ... ..	7
Government forests ... ..	12
Other unculturable waste ... ..	40

The last item consists chiefly of ravines, torrent-beds, hills and river.

The present cultivated area is 13 per cent. more than that of last settlement, which was an increase of 41 per cent. on the area of the first Regular

Settlement; cultivation has lost ground to some extent during the last few years owing to unfavourable seasons, but the shrinkage on this account is small; the nominal decrease due to more accurate area calculations at the present survey is also small; probably about the same as the decrease in the total area of the district, which has fallen from 4,039 square miles to 3,959, a difference of 2 per cent. On the other hand the new cultivation is for the most part greatly inferior to the old, some of it so poor that it can hardly repay the cost of cultivation, and I think, therefore, that I am well within the mark in saying that the increase in resources due to the breaking up of new land is certainly not more than ten per cent., and is probably less. Another point is that there is very little scope for extension in future; in the reviews on one of my Assessment Reports doubt was thrown on a statement to this effect, on the ground that Mr. Brandreth at the first Regular Settlement thought that little more land would be broken up, whereas the increase since his time has been very great; but this seems to me to prove rather that a vast amount of land has been brought under the plough which the ordinary person would not think worth cultivation, than that a similar miscalculation is probable now. The fact is that in this respect the district has nearly reached the end of its tether: here and there waste that will make fair cultivation does still exist, but in the ordinary village this is not the case; I consider it highly improbable that the increase during the next generation will be more than 10 per cent.

Classification of land.

10. The land under cultivation has, at the recent re-measurements, been classified as follows:—

- |                       |  |
|-----------------------|--|
| (i) Cháhi,            | } Land irrigated from (i) wells, (ii) canals, (iii) springs.   |
| (ii) Nahri,           |  |
| (iii) Abi,            |  |
| (iv) Sailáb ...       | Land affected by river floods.   |
| (v) Hail ...          | Unirrigated land regularly manured.  |
| (vi) Bárání awwal ... | Unirrigated land receiving drainage from higher ground and not wholly dependent on its own rainfall. |
| (vii) Mairá,          | } Ordinary level unirrigated land.   |
| (viii) Rakkar,        |  |
|                       | Sloping, stony, sour, or otherwise markedly inferior land.   |

For the purposes of the assessment calculations, however, such minuteness was unnecessary, and only four classes were adopted; (i) irrigated, (ii) sailáb, (iii) hail and bárání I, (iv) mairá and rakkar.

As far as it goes, the above classification is the best that is possible, but it would have been better (as being more intelligible to the zamíndárs), to record the soils in the village papers according to their innumerable local names, classifying them afterwards for assessment purposes under the four heads given above; the colourless term *bárání I* used to describe the superior unmanured land is also unsatisfactory; *las* would have been better, as it would have been more readily understood, though not a term commonly used all over the district.

The following table shows the proportion of land in each of the principal classes:—

TAHSIL.	PERCENTAGE ON TOTAL CULTIVATION OF			
	Irrigated.	Sailáb.	Hail and Bárání I.	Mairá and Rakkar.
Jhelum ... ..	1	4	11	84
Pind Dádan Khán ... ..	10	10	43	37
Chakwál ... ..	1	...	13	86
Tallagang ... ..	1	...	9	90
District ... ..	3	3	17	77

Though *rakkar* is not separately shown in this table, I would note here that too little land was recorded in that class except in Tahsil Jhelum, and that generally the tendency of the establishment was to class the land somewhat too highly.

11. The preceding paragraph shows how large a proportion of the land depends on the local rainfall ; on these unirrigated soils the system of cropping followed over about three-fourths of the whole district is what is usually called the two-year course ; a spring crop is followed in the same year by an autumn crop, and then the land lies fallow for the next year ; one advantage of this procedure is that the land is in a high state of tilth, and strengthened by a long fallow, when it is sown with the more valuable spring crop ; and the system also provides in a simple but effective way for the rotation of crops ; it is, however, far from being strictly adhered to, being modified according to the seasons, with a tendency, naturally, to prefer the rabi to the less certain and less profitable kharif. The crops grown in the rabi therefore largely exceed those grown in the kharif. In about a quarter of the district,—practically the whole of Tallagang, and the tract at the foot of the hills in Pind Dádan Khán,—the system is different, the kharif and rabi lands being separate ; in Tallagang the country is undulating, and the heavier lower-lying terraced *maíra* lands are used almost exclusively for the kharif, for which the very light and sandy higher ground is unsuitable, owing to the rapidity with which it dries under the summer sun. For different reasons the rabi and kharif lands in the submontane tract also are separate, but there it is the higher land on which the kharif crops are grown. In all parts of the district the best of the *bárání* I, embanked hollows or ravines receiving ample drainage from higher ground, is reserved almost entirely for the rabi, partly because of the greater value of the rabi staples, which the constant deposit of new soil enables the land to produce year after year, but partly also because such land is liable to injurious flooding in the summer rains.

On the river-inundated land wheat is the all-important crop : the kharif is confined to a little rice grown on newly formed land, not as yet much above the ordinary level of the stream, and a certain amount of maize and *bójra* on the old established high-lying ground.

Of the irrigated classes *ábí* is unimportant, though where it exists there is no land so profitable ; canal-irrigation is also at the present time quite insignificant ; the well-irrigation remains, and accounts for 3 per cent. of the total cultivation. It is of two kinds : in the River Bank Circle of Pind Dádan Khán, which alone contains over half the irrigation in the district, one-third of the cultivation is *cháhi*, and the irrigation is on a large scale, the average area per well being about 20 acres ; in other parts of the district the *cháhi* land is from .2 to 2.8 per cent. only of the total cultivation ; wells are comparatively numerous, but owing as a rule to the unevenness of the ground or the depth of the wells, the area irrigated is very small, on the average about 3 acres per well ; it naturally follows that, where these small areas are in good hands (by no means always the case), the cropping is much heavier, and the crops on the whole of a higher class, than on the larger areas of Pind Dádan Khán, 100 acres of land producing from 130 to 190 acres of matured crops, against 105 in Pind Dádan Khán ; the Jhelum Maidán Circle is an exception to the general rule, for not only is the area per well much smaller than it might be, but even on the actual irrigated area the crop rate is only 107 acres matured per 100 acres *cháhi* ; the only reason that can be given is that the rainfall is comparatively heavy and certain, and irrigation is indulged in to meet the owners' wants as regards vegetables and green-stuff, rather than for profit.

12. A few words may be added as to the present state of canal-irrigation and its prospects of extension. It is now confined to the Pind Dádan Khán Plain, where there are two small inundation Canals : one, taking off at Ahmadábád, is privately owned, and very badly managed, owing chiefly to the quarrels of the proprietors ; it is a good year when as much as 200 acres is irrigated. It may eventually be found advisable to acquire the canal for Government, but until then it has practically no value. The canal that takes off about 12 miles above Pind Dádan Khán was originally made by the Municipal Committee of that town, in whose management it continued until the present settlement, when its transfer to Government was proposed and sanctioned ; before the transfer the area irrigated was insignificant, usually about 120 acres, and it was run at an average loss of Rs. 600 per annum ; in 1900-01 the irrigated area was about 3,900 acres, and there is every prospect of



further extension. The Executive Engineer informs me that, after certain repairs to be carried out next cold weather, the area commanded will be at least 5,000 acres, which may later, by the introduction of stop-dams, be increased to 7,000. Just now irrigators are holding back, partly because the rates have recently been raised, but principally on account of the heavy rainfall of the last two harvests; there is, however, no reason to suppose that this backwardness is other than temporary. The canal is expected to play an important part in the reclamation of the sour *kallar* land, which disfigures so large a part of the Pind Dádan Khán Plain, but it cannot be said that at present any systematic attempt has been made in this direction, though a little *kallar* has been irrigated and has produced moderate crops.

This canal is likely to be absorbed in a much more important project, of an Inundation Canal taking off from the river at the extreme east of the Pind Dádan Khán Plain, above Jalálpur, which has been under consideration for some years; this will command about 50,000 acres, of which about half will be irrigated annually; the total cost is estimated at Rs. 5,00,000, on which a return of at least 5 per cent. is expected.\* A considerable part of the canal has already been dug, having been taken up as a relief work last year, so the sanction of Government to the scheme which has been submitted by the Department may be expected with some confidence. As at present proposed the canal will not reach the western part of the plain, where the cropping is most precarious, and the need of irrigation is by far the greatest; but it may be hoped that an extension in that direction may at some future time be possible, though the cross-drainages from the hills certainly offer some difficulty.

Proposals have also been made for a canal to irrigate the plain north of Jhelum; but the need is not so great there as in the Pind Dádan Khán Tahsil, and it will probably be long before this project is carried out.

13. Full information regarding the cropping on the different classes of land in each circle has been given in the Assessment Reports, and will not be repeated here; for the district as a whole, 35 per cent. of the crops harvested are grown in the kharíf and 65 per cent. in the rabi; the principal kharíf crops are, *bíjra* 18 per cent., pulses 8 per cent., others, chiefly *jowár* and cotton, 9 per cent.; and the rabi crops are, wheat 50 per cent., gram and oilseeds, 6 per cent. each; others, chiefly barley, 3 per cent. The prime importance of the wheat crop is the main point to notice.

The system in force at last settlement of recording at least one acre of crops for every acre of cultivation, renders impossible any comparison of the cropped area then with that now recorded; the increase is, no doubt, nearly though not quite equal to the increase in cultivation; there is no reason to suppose that any great change has occurred in the proportion that each crop bears to the total harvested.

The following detail of the cropping in recent years well illustrates the vicissitudes of agriculture in this district:—

YEAR.	AREA IN THOUSANDS OF ACRES.		
	Sown.	Matured.	Failed.
1892-93 ... ..	1,122	970	152
1893-94 ... ..	1,074	945	129
1894-95 ... ..	1,045	913	132
1895-96 ... ..	965	707	258
1896-97 ... ..	993	594	399
1897-98 ... ..	1,082	881	201
1898-99 ... ..	955	620	335
1899-1900 ... ..	746	214	532
1900-1901 ... ..	1,145	940	205
Average of nine years ... ..	1,014	754	260
Average excluding years of scarcity, 1896-97 and 1899-1900	1,055	854	201

\* Since this was written the estimates have been revised with less favourable results.

14. The amount of crops failed, as shown above, is not exaggerated; on the contrary, the tendency of the patwáris is to record too little *kharába*, but taking the figures as they stand, we see that on the average of the last nine years 407 square miles of crops sown (or 26 per cent. of the sowings) fail to produce anything; even if the two "famine" years are excluded, the failures amount to 315 square miles or 19 per cent.; taking this figure as normal a rough estimate shows that the actual cash value of the seed wasted is not less than Rs. 2,00,000 per annum, and that without taking account of interest charges, which are often very heavy: the loss falls on the tenants, if any, but as will be seen below, the land is usually cultivated by its owners.

On the average (excluding famine years) about a quarter of the sowings fail in the kharíf, and about one-sixth in the rabí; in general the sown area varies less in the kharíf than in the rabí, but once sown the rabí crop is more secure, being capable in the colder winter climate of enduring even prolonged drought if well started. The percentage of *kharába* is naturally least in the River Bank Circles, being there about one-eighth of the sowings; and rises as high as two-fifths in the arid Pind Dádan Khán Thal.

Occasionally crop failure in the River Bank villages is due to floods, or excessive rainfall, as in that (for the Jhelum valley) ever memorable year, 1893, when a flood of unprecedented volume in the river caused great loss of stock, besides doing immense damage to growing crops and harvested produce; few rabí harvests pass without some loss by hail, but though particular villages are very severely injured, the damage is generally local. It may be said therefore that the failures recorded are due almost entirely to want of timely rainfall, only 6 per cent. of the cultivation being protected by irrigation or river action.

15. Crop failure has been a pronounced feature of the recent harvests; their unfavourable character has at every turn hampered and retarded the work of the settlement; they are briefly described below—

Year.	Kharíf.	Rabí.
1894-95	Good	Average.
1895-96	Poor	Poor.
1896-97	Bad	Bad.
1897-98	Nearly average	Fairly good.
1898-99	Poor	Poor.
1899-1900	Very bad	Very bad.
1900-1901	Good	Excellent.

The proportion of bad crops is much above the average; the tale of harvests opening with promise and ending with disaster would be monotonous. We have now had one very good year, but the net result is that the district is much reduced below the normal level of prosperity, and has much lost ground to make good. The prolonged droughts, culminating in the scarcity and intense fodder famine of 1899-1900 make the last few years by far the worst since the district came under British rule; we should have to go back to A. D. 1783, or at least 1834, to find a parallel.

16. The population at the various census years was as follows:—

Year.	Population.	Increase per cent. per annum.	Density per square mile of cultivation.
1868	481,510	...	488
1881	589,373	1.72	415
1891	609,056	.33	354
1901	594,018	-.25	370

Had the census taken place in 1899 instead of in 1901, it would in all probability have shown a small increase; in other words, the decrease now recorded is due to the scarcity of last year; not that any one died of starvation, though the

privations undergone must inevitably have raised the death-rate and lowered the birth-rate; but emigration, especially to the Chenáb Colony, was very large, and even a good kharif and the prospect of a bumper rabí was not enough to bring all the absentees home before the census night.

The two River Bank Circles, which do not depend wholly on the rainfall, and, somewhat strangely, the Lundi Pattí Circle of Chakwál, show small increases in population since 1891; in the other circles the decrease varies from  $2\frac{1}{2}$  per cent. in Tallagang to 13 per cent. in the Jhelum Pabbí.

17. Excluding the town population, the density per square mile of cultivation is 344 for the whole district, varying from 199 in Tallagang, 259 in the Thal and 277 in the Dhanní, to 589 in the Pind Dádan Khán Hills, and 632 in the River Bank Circle of the same tahsil. The Jhelum River Bank (566), Maidán (548), and the Phaphra Circle of Pind Dádan Khán (533), are also somewhat densely populated; congestion is, however, nowhere acute, though the Hills and the River Bank Circles seem to have as large a population as they can conveniently support; in Chakwál, Tallagang and the Thal the character of the land and the cropping does not allow of any great density of population, but there is certainly room for considerable expansion, at any rate in the two first.

The size of holdings is a somewhat important factor in the revenue-paying capacity of a tract; though if any subsidiary occupation is available to the zamíndárs' smallness of holdings is not necessarily an argument for low assessment, and may even make the realisation of a fairly high demand easier than would otherwise be the case; to some extent the Pabbí Circle is an instance of this. The Assessment Reports contain detailed information as to the size of holdings; their average size is least (from 6 to 12 acres), in the Jhelum Tahsil, the hills of the Salt Range, and the Lundi Pattí Circle in Chakwál; largest in the Pind Dádan Khán Thal (24 acres), and in Tallagang (31); elsewhere the average varies from 15 to 19 acres. In a general way it may be said that holdings are inconveniently small only in the Pabbí, and in parts of Lundi Pattí and the hills; elsewhere usually sufficient, and even too large for really good management in the Tallagang Tahsil and parts of the Dhanní.

18. Some tribal statistics are given below; the tribes are entered roughly in the order in which they stand as agriculturists.

Tribes.	Per cent. of total cultivation held.	Per cent. on total number of owners.	Average area per owner.
Jat, Phaphra, Gujjar and Bhatti ... ..	20	26	7
Awán ... ..	31	21	14
Mair, Kassar and Kabut ... ..	15	8	17
Not otherwise specified ... ..	16	24	6
Khokhar, Jálap ... ..	3	2	13
Gakkhar and Janjua ... ..	9	8	11
Sayyad and Qureshi ... ..	3	5	5
Hindús and Sikhs, (non cultivators) ... ..	3	6	5

The Gujars and Jats are of the larger tribes the best cultivators of the district, the former being perhaps the best of the two; they are industrious, and sparing enough in their ordinary expenditure, but seldom good managers, and all ideas of economy are thrown to the winds on occasions of mourning or rejoicing, or in the prosecution of a law-suit; the Gujars are very quarrelsome, and somewhat badly behaved; they are to some extent a people apart, confining their relationships within their own tribe, and speaking a dialect of their own, which they are said to have brought with them from the Delhi Division. The next two classes are too fond of holiday making; and are divided into factions, carried on with extraordinary bitterness, and the most prominent feature of the tracts which these tribes inhabit; the Mairs, &c., who own most of the Dhanní Circle, are thriftless and extravagant to a degree, and in this respect, as well as in industry, the Awáns are their superiors. "Others" includes Malliárs, Lillás, Patháns, Kamíns, &c., who on the whole are fair

cultivators. The next class is not important; it shares most of the characteristics of the Gakkhars and Janjuas, the aristocracy of the landowning population, who from giving the country its rulers have come down to the position of ordinary zamíndárs; it would not be reasonable in such people to look for the qualifications of good cultivators, though they do not make bad landlords. They are not without their good points, and make excellent soldiers; in their home life they do not escape the faction-feeling for which the district is notorious, and one of the worst characteristics of the Gakkhars is their intense jealousy of their more successful clansmen. The worst cultivators of all are, however, the lazy begging Sayyads, who are sprinkled about the district, but not, fortunately, in great numbers. Though Hindús now own a fair percentage of the land, they are only found as cultivators in half-a-dozen estates; in 1891 89 per cent. of the whole population were Muhammadans, the remaining 11 per cent. being almost entirely Hindús, making their living by trade, money-lending, or the service of Government.

19. How important a feature in the economy of the district is the income from Government service, or pensions, will be clear from the following figures:—

TAHSIL.	ANNUAL INCOME IN RUPEES FROM PAY AND PENSIONS ENJOYED BY		Number of individuals.
	Muhammadans.	Hindús.	
	Ra.		
Jhelum ... ..	5,25,301	2,13,394	4,677
Pind Dádan Khán ... ..	3,46,650	2,29,829	2,936
Chakwál ... ..	3,34,072	1,80,523	2,642
Tallagang... ..	93,635	26,466	767
District ... ..	12,99,658	6,50,212	11,022

The total income from this source is, therefore, close on twenty lakhs per annum, or more than twice the land revenue by the new assessments; it is of course the gross income, and not the savings, but in time of trouble there is in many parts of the district a constant stream of money orders from men absent on service, which bring a considerable amount of money into the district; it is not so widely distributed as might be thought, a large proportion going to a comparatively small number of villages, and does not, therefore, greatly increase the revenue-paying capacity of the district as a whole.

The above takes no account of the considerable income derived, in some parts of the district, (chiefly in Jhelum and Pind Dádan Khán), from casual labour in the Dandot Collieries, the quarries of Rawál and Tarakki, and on the Railways and the Shahpur Canals; these earnings cannot well be estimated, but the Coal Mines alone provide work on the average for 1,500 zamíndárs, earning at least two-and-a-half lakhs per annum, and probably much more; in the Salt Mines the work is nearly all done by professional miners, but two or three hundred zamíndárs find employment about them.

20. The North-Western Railway passes through the Jhelum Tahsil, and the Sind-Ságar Branch traverses a great part of the Pind Dádan Khán Plain, while the newly opened Marie Attock Line has a station at Injra close to the north-west corner of Tallagang; this recent addition to the railway communications of the district must have some influence on prices in this, the most backward portion of the tract, but it does not so far seem to be great, perhaps because the line is cut off from Tallagang by the treacherous Sawán Stream; and most of the trade still goes towards Pind Dádan Khán. At last settlement, however, the railway only touched the district at Jhelum itself, so its external communications have improved considerably since then. Internal communications remain as before; the Grand Trunk Road, running parallel to the railway through the Jhelum Tahsil, is the only one that is metalled; the rest of the district is fairly well furnished with *kacha* roads, as shown on the map, a few of them in parts passable for carts; but there is no cart traffic, camels and other pack-animals being used instead; internal communications are on the whole bad, and from the nature of the country are likely to remain so.



There are no large markets ; those at Jhelum and Pind Dádan Khán are the most considerable, though the latter is declining, having lost the whole of the salt trade, and being ill able to compete with the recently developed grain markets on either side of it, at Haranpur and Lilla, which have the advantage of escaping octroi payments. Chakwál is also a market of some small local importance, but most of the grain exported from that part of the district finds its way direct to Gujar Khán in the Ráwalpindi District.

The formerly considerable river traffic towards Sukkur has ceased with the opening of the railways.

21. Live-stock in 1899 was already less than at last settlement, and the loss in the fodder famine of 1899-1900 amounted to 42 per cent. of the bulls and bullocks, the decrease under other heads being on the whole about the same. Five or six years ago the district was probably somewhat over-stocked ; in spite of some recovery since last year, the contrary is now undoubtedly the case, a fact that must have its influence on the agriculture of the tract for many years to come ; the number of plough cattle per effective plough is now 1·3 against 1·8 at settlement, though the number of ploughs has itself fallen by 20 per cent. Something can be done by using cows and donkeys instead of bullocks (and they are always used to some extent), but it is obvious that cultivation cannot for the present be as thorough as it used to be.

The estimated profits from hire of camels, sale of surplus stock, *ghi*, milk, wool, &c., were before the recent scarcity as follows :—

	Rs.
Jhelum ... ..	1,05,000
Pind Dádan Khán ... ..	30,000
Chakwál ... ..	1,76,000
Tallagang ... ..	92,000
Total ... ..	4,03,000

These estimates, though highly speculative, were probably very moderate ; in better times the fine cattle bred in Chakwál and Tallagang are sold in some numbers ; elsewhere profits are made in other ways, as in the hills, where pack-bullocks employed on the Gilgit Road, &c., are numerous,—or were, for apart from the drought the business seems to be declining. But just now live-stock yields no profits, or if any profits are made, they are more than swallowed up in the expense of buying new cattle to replace those that have died.

22. The total transferred since settlement is about 22 per cent. of the cultivation, mortgages slightly exceeding sales ; about 11½ per cent. of the land has been acquired by money-lenders, 3½ per cent. permanently and 8 per cent. by mortgage ; there is not much variation between Tahsils, except that the percentage transferred is higher in Chakwál than elsewhere. The total alienations at last settlement were under 4 per cent., so there has been a marked change for the worse since then, though as things go now-a-days the district has held its own fairly well. As the statistics given in the Assessment Reports are now out of date, a statement showing the percentage transferred in each circle up to 8th June 1901 is given in Appendix I.

The following statement shows the average annual alienations since settlement by five yearly periods :—

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
District.	Years.	MORTGAGES WITH POSSESSION.		REDEMPTIONS.		SALES OR PERMANENT TRANSFERS FOR VALUE.	
		Number of transactions.	Cultivated area transferred.	Number of transactions.	Cultivated area transferred.	Number of transactions.	Cultivated area transferred.
Jhelum ...	Average of 1880 to 1885 ...	519	3,274	70	427	513	2,029
	1885-86 to 1889-90 ...	2,400	9,273	564	2,707	1,973	5,472
	1890-91 to 1894-95 ...	2,518	8,831	1,137	5,783	2,530	6,212
	1895-96 to 1899-1900 ...	4,817	13,329	2,663	9,358	4,431	8,836
	1900-1901 ... ..	3,230	7,473	1,422	4,047	3,712	6,593

Sale and mortgage prices have risen very largely, the average prices at different periods being as follows :—

Settlement, mortgage, Rs. 21 : sale, Rs. 23 per acre.

1880—85	„	„	38	„	„	41	}	„
1885—90	„	„	30	„	„	48		
1890—95	„	„	36	„	„	61		
1895—1900	„	„	45	„	„	78		
1900—1901	„	„	50	„	„	86		

The prices of the later periods at any rate are exaggerated ; mortgage money is swelled by accumulations of interest, and a substantial addition is always made to the real sale-price of land in order to keep off pre-emptors : but even allowing for this, the rise in the value of the land since last settlement is sufficiently striking ; the purchase money of land sold amounts for the district as a whole to nearly 100 times the land revenue assessed on it, varying from about 80 times in Tallagang to 110 times in Jhelum.

Unsecured debt, as ascertained by enquiry when the Assessment Reports were submitted in 1897-99, amounted to nearly forty lakhs of rupees, or four rupees per acre of cultivation ; no fresh enquiry has been made since the calamitous year 1899-1900, but it is obvious that indebtedness must have increased very greatly.

The subject of land-transfers is now a somewhat threadbare one, and with the introduction of the Land Alienation Act from 8th June 1901, has entered on a new stage of development ; I would only say here that there is no reason to suppose that in any circle transfers are due to severity of assessment unless in very exceptional circumstances ; if the need of money to pay the land revenue has in many cases laid the foundation of indebtedness, (as undoubtedly it has), this is due to the improvidence of the landowner ; the moderation or otherwise of the Government demand has practically nothing whatever to do with it.

23. The harvest prices from 1833 to 1876 are set forth in Colonel Wace's Assessment Report ; early in this settlement an enquiry examination was made of the traders' books in thirty-eight of the towns and principal villages of the district, in order to bring these statistics up to date, and the result is given in the preliminary report submitted in June 1896. "Harvest prices" are those which the zamindár actually receives for his produce, and are usually fixed on one date to govern the transactions of the whole harvest ; they of course differ much from the *Gazette* prices recorded at Jhelum, being about 20 per cent. lower in Jhelum and Pind Dádan Khán, and 33 per cent. lower in the more remote Tahsils.

The prices assumed for the assessment were based chiefly on the harvest prices of the ten years, 1886 to 1895, excluding years of scarcity ; but some allowance was made for the very low prices of 1894, which in similar conditions may at any time be repeated. It was not considered right to go back further than 1886, when the railways influencing prices in the district were first completed.

The more important of the commutation prices sanctioned by the Financial Commissioner are as follows :—

Crop.		Jhelum and Pind Dádan Khán.			Chakwál and Tallagang.		
Kharif	{	Bájra	...	32	...	35	sérs per rupee.
	{	Pulses	...	28	...	28	„
	{	Cotton	...	11	...	10	„
Rabi	{	Wheat	...	25	...	28	„
	{	Gram	...	34	...	38	„
	{	Táramíra	...	20	...	22	„

These rates are taken to represent the lowest prices that are likely to prevail for any considerable period during the currency of the new settlements and are no doubt very moderate, but the uncertainty of the subject is so great that a very cautious estimate was necessary.

24. The rise in prices, based on the above assumed rates, was worked out as follows in the Assessment Reports:—

<i>Jhelum Pind Dádan Khán Chakwál Talagang</i>									
All-round rise per cent., comparing prices of 1886-95 with those of 1866-76, excluding years of scarcity ... ..									
	38	...	81	...	30	...	36		
Prices now assumed with those assumed at last settlement... ..									
	67	...	40	...	41	...	58		
Prices now assumed with those of 1883-85, (lowest during period of expired settlement),									
	29	...	26	...	26	...	28		

The general conclusions to be drawn from the above figures are that prices have risen by about 33 per cent. since settlement; and that the present demand has been paid without difficulty when prices were from 26 to 29 per cent. lower than the assumed lowest prices of the new settlement.

25. The land is owned by Muhammadan agriculturists, fairly industrious on the whole, but headstrong, wanting in thrift, and mostly involved in debt; alienations, trifling twenty years ago, now amount to more than one-fifth of the cultivation, of which, however, only half has gone to non-agriculturists; the price of land has at least doubled, and is 100 times the old assessment. Internal communications remain as before in a primitive condition; external communications have been immensely improved by railway construction; owing to this improvement and the resulting growth of the export grain trade, prices have risen not less than 33 per cent.

Cultivation has increased since settlement by 13 per cent., the new land being mostly very poor; little further increase can be expected; agricultural conditions are much the same as before; there has been some extension of canal-irrigation and a more important development in the same direction is expected, but the land irrigated will always be a very small percentage of the total. It is 3 per cent. now. In Pind Dádan Khán the ravages of *kallar* have increased, but it is hoped that the extension of canal-irrigation implies the reclamation of much of this sour land.

The rainfall is somewhat scanty, and very uncertain: one-fifth of the crops sown are a dead loss. Recent harvests have been exceedingly bad; and in the scarcity of last year two-fifths of the live-stock perished; population has increased by less than one per cent. in the last twenty years. Holdings are at present generally of sufficient size and often larger than is desirable.

The people depend almost entirely on the land; Government pay and pensions amount to a large sum, but are of perceptible assistance to only a limited number of villages.

On the whole the progress made since settlement is not great; there is certainly good reason for taking a moderate enhancement of the land revenue demand, the principal grounds for doing so being the large rise in prices, and the moderation of the old assessments, but the moment for taking it is hardly propitious.

### CHAPTER III.—REVENUE HISTORY.

26. The gross revenue demand at different times was as follows:—

Demand at previous settlements.				Rs.	
Sikh Rule, 1833 to 1849	...	...	...	7,08,846	
First Summary Settlement, 1849	...	...	...	6,63,542	Decrease.
Second Summary Settlement, 1852	...	...	...	6,52,177	6½ per cent.
First Regular Settlement, 1855-64	...	...	...	6,22,401	2 „
					4½ „
Second Regular Settlement, 1874-81	...	..	7,32,650	Increase.	18 per cent.
Last year of Expiring Settlement, 1900-01	...	...	7,30,386	Decrease.	½ per cent.
					Increase.
Demand now announced for 1901-02	...	...	9,18,987		26 per cent.

The amount shown as the Sikh demand professes to be the average of what they took in the last four years of their rule; in fact the Sikh demand cannot be stated with any accuracy; the local officers of the Lahore Darbár, the kárdárs, took as much as they could get, the standard being one-third produce in Tallagang, and half produce elsewhere; that is, the share of the produce now regarded as the landlord's due.

27. The greater part of the district joined the standard of Chhattar Singh in the second Sikh War, and the first Summary Settlement made immediately afterwards, by Major John Nicholson in Jhelum and Lundi Pattí, and by Mr. Bowring elsewhere, was somewhat severe; the standard of assessment was two-fifths produce or the Sikh demand, which ever might be lowest; the second summary settlement of 1852, by Major Browne, was intended to correct the more obvious inequalities of the first. These summary settlements on the whole worked fairly well; the assessments were easily paid in Chakwál and Tallagang, but with some difficulty in the other two Tahsils, notably in the Thal and Phaphra Circles of Pind Dádan Khán and in the central Salt Range; in two or three estates the owners refused the assessments, and relinquished their proprietary rights.

28. The assessments of the first Regular Settlement of Mr. Brandreth were framed with a general regard to the principle that the demand should in no case exceed half-assets; he gave large reductions in Jhelum and Pind Dádan Khán, but was able to take a small enhancement in Chakwál and Tallagang. His assessments were in nearly every case paid with ease and regularity, in spite of several indifferent harvests, and under them the district made a considerable advance in general prosperity.

29. The first Revised Settlement was carried out by Major Wace, whose assessments were considered by the Financial Commissioner too lenient: some alterations were therefore made in the revenue rates of five circles, and the proposed demand was slightly raised in all, giving an enhancement for the whole district of 18 per cent. against 13 per cent. proposed by the Settlement Officer; the increase due to the Financial Commissioner's orders was in no case large enough to have any perceptible effect on the working of the settlement, and with few exceptions, the demand had been paid without difficulty in all parts of the district, until recently a long series of bad years rendered large suspensions necessary.

30. Suspensions will be a somewhat prominent feature of the future revenue administration of the district, and information as to those which have been given in the past are therefore of sufficient interest to be stated with some fullness:—

YEAR.	Remissions.	SUSPENSIONS.				Area affected.	Cause.
		Suspended.	Realised.	Remitted.	Balance.		
1887-88 ...	...	*20,742	20,742	...	...	Chiefly Thal; also Hills and Tallagang	
1888-89 ...	...	*5,215	5,215	...	...	Chiefly Tallagang and Dhanní.	
1890-91 ...	{ +473 } { ‡65,211 }	*523	523	...	...	Tallagang and Dhanní.	
1891-92 ...	...	*25,689	25,689	...	...	Chiefly Thal and Phaphra.	*Drought.
1892-93 ...	†105	...	...	...	...	Jhelum Khaddar ...	†Hail.
1893-94 ...	‡3,202	‡4,958	4,958	...	...	River Bank Circles	‡Locusts.
1895-96 ...	...	*8,835	6,290	2,545	...	All Tahsils except Tallagang.	‡Flood.
1896-97 ...	...	{ †7,087 } { *75,419 }	17,945	64,561	...	Chiefly Jhelum and Pind Dádan Khán.	
1897-98 ...	†683	*7,566	743	6,823	...	Jhelum ...	
1898-99 ...	†366	*49,502	1,240	...	48,262	All Tahsils ..	
1899-1900 ...	†1,178	*513,081	4,723	...	508,358	Do. ...	
1900-01 ...	†118	*22,231	124,539	...	—102,308	All Tahsils except Jhelum.	
Total ...	71,336	740,848	212,607	73,929	454,312		

Before 1887, it does not seem to have been customary to grant suspensions; at any rate none were granted, and it is hardly possible that none were needed; since 1887 there has been only one year in which neither suspensions nor remissions were required in any part of the district. This must be accepted as a normal condition of affairs; such a circle as the Thal needs constant attention, and some other parts of the district are only less insecure than the Thal; the largely enhanced assessments make more necessary than ever the grant of timely relief when wanted.

I have said that the past settlement has worked easily, and I do not think that the figures given above are any proof to the contrary; in a dry tract dependent on a precarious rainfall even a very moderate fixed assessment would not relieve us of the necessity of giving rather frequent suspensions; if *remissions*, otherwise than for unforeseen calamities such as hail and locusts, are avoided, and the bulk of the revenue is paid with punctuality, a settlement may be said to have worked satisfactorily.

31. The amount shown in the preceding paragraph as realised in 1900-1901 consists almost entirely of the sums set down for realisation with the current rabi demand; assuming that these sums will be duly paid, there still remains a balance of Rs. 4,54,812 with which, if it is not remitted, the district will begin the new settlement. I asked for authority to inform the people, when recently announcing the new assessments, that these arrears would be remitted on the introduction of the new demand; but the Financial Commissioner, agreeing with the Settlement Commissioner, held that the question whether such balances should be written-off when the settlement takes effect, is an important one which requires deliberate consideration, and no final orders on the subject have at present been received. I believe, however, that it will eventually be found necessary to remit almost the whole of these arrears.

I note here that out of Rs. 2,37,180 granted as *takāvi* during the last six years, (nearly all for seed or cattle), the balance against the district at the end of June 1901 was Rs. 1,74,293. In addition to *takāvi* a sum of Rs. 1,96,427 from Charitable Funds was distributed during the two years 1896-97 and 1899-1900.

The total of suspensions, remissions, *takāvi*, and charitable grants in the last six years is Rs. 12,23,657; and in addition the enhancement of revenue, amounting to nearly two lakhs per annum, has been deferred for two years.

## CHAPTER VI.—ASSESSMENT.

32. In anticipation of the expiry of the second regular settlement at the end of 1898-99, an elaborate Forecast Report was submitted in 1895, by Mr. Silcock, Deputy Commissioner, in which he estimated that a revision of settlement would result in an enhancement of Rs. 1,56,854; the Financial Commissioner remarked that it would probably be found that an increase of Rs. 1,75,000 could easily be taken, (an estimate that has actually been exceeded by about Rs. 12,000); and on this report the district was placed under re-assessment, under the sanction of the Government of India, conveyed in their No. 3286, dated 21st November 1895.

33. The instructions under which the assessments have been made are those of 1893, printed as Appendix A. to Douie's Settlement Manual; they lay down that in the absence of special orders to the contrary, the share of the produce to which by ancient custom the Government is entitled, shall be fixed in cash for a term of years; and the amount thus assessed must not in any estate exceed "half-net assets," defined as half the average surplus after deducting all the expenses of cultivation. On the other hand, any lower assessment than half-assets must be justified in the Assessment Reports.

The half-assets estimate is, therefore, an important factor in the assessment proposals; where cash rents prevail, the calculation is fairly simple, but here true cash rents are practically non-existent; 55 per cent. of the cultivation is in the hands of the owners themselves, 12 per cent. is held by occupancy tenants; of the remaining 33 per cent. held by tenants-at-will,  $1\frac{1}{2}$  per cent. pays no rent, and although  $2\frac{1}{2}$  per cent. is recorded as being held on cash-rents, the rent is very sel-

dom competitive; the half-assets estimate must therefore be based on the rents in kind paid by tenants-at-will holding 29 per cent. of the cultivation, and it is necessary to ascertain the cash value of these rents.

34. The tract having been divided into Assessment Circles, (paragraph 5 above), and the land being suitably classified, (paragraph 10), the first step in the process is to determine the average rates of yield of the various crops for each class of land in each circle; to this end a large number of crop experiments were during the progress of the settlement carried out by all ranks of Settlement Officials, from Settlement Officer to Kánúngo. At the outset the system adopted was that prescribed by the Government of India, of experiments on very small plots of one-fortieth of an acre, but it was soon realised that such experiments were useless, and subsequently the areas observed were much larger, generally about two acres.

The care and rapidity with which the harvesting operations are carried out on such occasions prevents the loss usually suffered by wastage on the threshing floor; and, although the plots selected were as far as possible inspected in all cases by a Gazetted Officer, or Tahsildar, this did not wholly overcome the difficulty of choosing for experiment what might be regarded as average plots; the tendency is to select plots that are above the average. Whatever the cause, it is well-known that our experiments give exaggerated rates of outturn and in my assumptions I found it necessary to depart rather widely from the results that they gave; I relied chiefly on my own knowledge, acquired by the habit of appraising the crops seen in the course of many rides through the tract, the opinions formed being checked by actual experiment here and there, and by the opinions of the attendant chaudhrís, which are generally fairly given, though naturally with a tendency to moderation. The opinions of the Extra Assistant Settlement Officer and Tahsildars were duly weighed; and I had the further advantage of being able to refer to the results of the very elaborate experiments carried out at last settlement, and described in paragraphs 86 to 89 of Major Wace's Assessment Report; the books of Court of Wards' estates and other large landholders were consulted, in the few cases where they offered reliable information; and finally the rates of yield thought suitable were compared with those assumed in adjoining districts.

The resulting rates, given in Appendix A, are, I believe, a fairly correct, but probably moderate, estimate of the *average* outturn; they are very largely exceeded both in a good year on ordinary land, and in an average year on land above the average of its class, the variation from the mean in some crops such as *táramíra* being enormous; but the contrary is also true. The rates assumed, which were in all cases accepted by the authorities reviewing the Assessment Reports, may, therefore, be taken as suitable: (in the table appended they have been revised and slightly altered here and there in the light of further experience).

35. To obtain the value of the gross outturn, it was only necessary to apply the assumed rates of yield to the normal harvested area, which was taken to be the average area matured of the five or six years preceding the submission of the Assessment Reports, (in all cases a fairly normal cycle). Details for each circle are to be found in those reports; for the district as a whole some information is given in paragraph 13 above.

36. But certain deductions had first to be made on account of the crops used as fodder, and therefore disposed of to meet one of the principal expenses of cultivation; this was done by omitting altogether from the calculation those crops which are used for fodder alone; and by omitting a share of other crops, which are partly so used; thus all crops recorded as "fodder," half to a quarter of the *rowár-charri*, and usually the whole of the *sarson* were excluded; in addition, on the wells of the Pind Dádan Khán River Bank Circle, all the turnips, half the carrots, and one-eighth of the wheat were struck out as being consumed as fodder; these allowances are sufficient, considering the fact that the value of the straw, of which a non-cultivating owner generally takes a share, has been excluded altogether from the produce estimate; a course not always adopted, but open to objection only when the straw has a saleable value; that is the case only in the neighbourhood of the towns and a few of the largest villages.

37. Some further deductions were necessary; the landlord takes his share of the produce only after certain customary dues have been paid from the "common heap" to the *kamíns* or agricultural village menials in return for the services rendered by them in connection with the cultivation. The principal *kamíns*, who do such work, are the *lohár*, (blacksmith), *tarkhán*, (carpenter), and on the wells the *kumhár*, (potter). To these must be added in some circles the *musallí*, whose business is to supply raw-hide and basket-work; and who also assists in the harvesting operations. These *kamíns* usually take so many measures (*topa* or *choha*) of grain per plough; or sometimes per *kharwár* of 400 sérs; and generally a certain number of sheaves or ears in addition; for full details the Assessment Reports may be referred to.

Another deduction was made in the case of *cháhi* land, to cover the expenses that fall on a non-cultivating owner in respect to the upkeep of the well and its gear.

The resulting deductions in percentages on the gross produce are shown below:—

CLASS OF LAND.	JHELM.				PIND DADAN KHAN.			CHAKWAL.			Tallagang.
	River Bank.	Maidán.	Khuddar.	Pabbí.	Hills.	Phaphra.	Thal.	River Bank.	Lundi Pattí.	Dhanf.	
Irrigated ... ..	14½	14½	14½	14½	10	12	12	12	9½	9½	10½
Sailáb ... ..	9½	...	...	...	...	...	7	7	...	...	...
Unirrigated ... ..	9	9	8½	8½	6	9	7½	8	6½	6	7

These allowances, though fair, do not err on the side of liberality; in one instance, (Hill Circle irrigated), I have now substituted a higher figure than that taken in the Assessment Report, where the unirrigated rate was taken for the well land on the somewhat inadequate ground that wells are in that circle few and unimportant.

It should be noted that other deductions are in practice made from the common heap; but as these are not made in return for agricultural service, they are no part of the expenses of cultivation, and cannot be allowed for in the produce estimate.

38. These deductions having been made from the cash value of the gross produce, (less fodder), the balance represents the divisible produce: in the Tallagang Tahsil the landlord's share is usually one-third, the average rent in this tahsil being 38½ per cent.

Pind Dádan Khán: Hills, unirrigated, 49 per cent.; Thal, irrigated, 46 per cent.; Chakwál, Lundi Pattí, irrigated, 49½ per cent.; unirrigated, 49 per cent. of the produce on irrigated land, and 33½ per cent. on dry land; in all other circles, with the exceptions noted in the margin,\* he almost invariably takes half, and that is the average rent assumed.

This percentage of the divisible produce represents then the estimated "net assets," and we have only to divide by two to get the half-net assets assessment, the amount to which Government is in theory entitled, according to the standard which it has laid down.

39. The half-assets rates per acre are obtained for each class of land in each circle, by distributing the half-assets estimates, worked out as above, over the total cultivated area of the same class and circle; they are shown, with the details of the calculation by which they are arrived at, in Appendix B. The results will be noticed in the remarks on the assessment of each circle; for the present it is sufficient to say that while the estimates were in all cases accepted in the orders on the Assessment Reports, it was remarked by Government that those for the Pind Dádan Khán Tahsil were based on very cautious *data*, especially in the matter of prices. In Chakwál and Tallagang, on the other hand, the Financial Commissioner thought the estimates were rather high, and Government apparently concurred, though remarking that they do not fully bring out the benefit derived by the agriculturists from the rise in

prices. For the Jhelum Tahsil the Lieutenant-Governor considered that the half-assets estimate was "a very reasonable computation of the demand based on the rent which a fairly strict landlord can realise from an industrious tenant, though probably rather more than half the actual profits derived by landowners from agriculture under the conditions that actually prevail."

My own opinion, in the light of further experience, is that, prices apart, the estimate is perhaps a little low in Pind Dádan Khán, and about right elsewhere; considering the moderation of the prices assumed, and the fact that no account has been taken of the value of the straw, or the minor profits from sale of jungle products, &c., we may safely conclude that the half assets rates are at all events not too high.

40. A further check on the fairness of the assessment proposed is provided by the estimate of the demand brought out by applying to the new areas the revenue rates of last settlement, raised in proportion to the rise in prices since they were framed; a specially low rate being in most cases applied to the new land, on account of its inferior quality.

Demand by rates of last settlement on present areas.

41. Although these elaborate estimates are made as a guide to the assessment, the exact amount of the demand that can be taken,—the extent by which it must fall short of the half-assets standard, remains entirely a matter of opinion, depending on the consideration of a variety of matters, as to which no definite rule can be laid down.

Pitch of assessment: Revenue rates: distribution over villages.

Before the submission of the Assessment Reports, I had made a careful inspection of the whole of the villages in the tract to be reported on, and had formed a rough opinion as to the amount that each of them was able to pay; in doing so I had regard to the amount of the existing assessment, and the ease or difficulty with which it had been paid, the quality of the land, increase in cultivation and irrigation, or the reverse; the general prosperity or poverty of the estate, the amount of land transfers, the character of the owners as cultivators and otherwise, sufficiency of land and of cattle for its cultivation, income from miscellaneous sources, any abnormal feature in the rent rates or prices current in the village, the character of the cropping; and a number of other matters, which it is unnecessary to state; these preliminary village *jamás* were revised before the assessment proposals for the circle were matured, and were often considerably modified; they were compared also with the assessments which the Tahsildars (and in some cases the Extra Assistant Settlement Officer) considered that each village could pay; though I cannot say that I found their estimates of much assistance. The total of the village *jamás* after this scrutiny formed the principal basis of the assessment proposals for the tracts of which they formed part, such modifications being introduced as a consideration of the circumstances of the circle as a whole, and of the *data* set forth in the Assessment Reports, appeared to render necessary.

The assessment sanctioned was in nearly all cases somewhat more than I proposed; on receipt of the orders on the reports, I had, therefore, again to revise the village *jamás*, in order to bring out, as far as I was able to do so, the demand sanctioned by Government; in doing this I had before me, except for Pind Dádan Khán, not only the assessment of each village by the sanctioned half-assets rates, but what was far more useful in a district where the variation between villages of the same circle is so great, the demand brought out by applying, to the average harvested area of the village on each class of land, rates per acre harvested calculated to yield, for the circle as a whole, the assessment desired by Government.

I now proceed to the consideration of the assessment of each circle separately.

#### ASSESSMENT OF THE JHELUM TAHSIL.

42. This circle consists of a narrow line of villages along the bank of the river, the cultivation being 3 per cent. irrigated, 29 per cent. *sailáb*, and 68 per cent. *larání*; the *sailáb* is not very good, much of it being injured by the torrents which here join the river, and while depositing the sand that they bring down, keep off the silt-bearing floods of the river to some extent. The irrigated land is fairly

Assessment of the Jhelum Tahsil.  
RIVER BANK CIRCLE.  
General description.



good, and the *bārání* a moderate loam, rather thirsty, and in places very stony. There has been some deterioration since settlement owing chiefly to the great flood of 1893. The land is in fairly good hands, and is on the whole well tilled.

One hundred acres of land bears on the average 109 acres of crops, of which 19 fail to mature; but except in the south of the circle the rainfall is fairly certain, and cropping comparatively secure.

Both cultivation and population are practically unaltered; excluding the town of Jhelum, the density per square mile of cultivation is 566; holdings are small, averaging 6 acres.

The people do not live extravagantly, but are very improvident, and especially when the set of the river has been against them have yielded readily to the great demand for the land; 13 per cent. of the cultivation has been sold, at a price equal to 80 times the revenue assessed in it and 15 per cent. has been mortgaged, mostly to *sáhu-kárs* in both cases.

43. This was one of the circles in which Major Wace's assessments were raised; he wished to give a reduction of 6 per cent. chiefly on account of the low assessment in Gujrát on the other side of the river, but in the event the decrease was 2 per cent. only. The assessments have been paid without any special difficulty, the certainly unprosperous state of the circle being due to other causes—improvidence, and the action of the river.

The demand by different estimates is as follows :—

	Rs.
Half-assets ... ..	53,596
One-sixth gross produce ... ..	39,279
By rates of last settlement, enhanced for rise in prices, on present areas ... ..	47,078
Assessment of 1900-1901 ... ..	34,896
Do. proposed and sanctioned ... ..	38,000
Do. by sanctioned rates ... ..	39,346
Actually assessed. ... ..	39,798

Between the submission of the Assessment Report and the announcement of the new *jamás*, the demand of this circle rose from Rs. 32,405 to Rs. 34,896 owing to river action; and the sanctioned assessment, by applying the rates approved to the latest areas, comes to Rs. 39,346 instead of Rs. 38,000; the *jamás* announced exceed this amount by  $1\frac{1}{2}$  per cent. and give an increase of 14.5 per cent. on the present demand.

This assessment is, I think, a fairly full one, considering the moderate character of the land, and the unsatisfactory condition of the circle; but the owners have already proved themselves incapable of profiting by a low demand, and there was nothing to be gained by continuing it. The assessments were well received, no villages filing objections.

The revenue rates sanctioned, compared with the half-assets and other rates, are as follows :—

SOIL.	Khewat rates of first Regular Settlement.	Revenue rates of the second Regular Settlement.	Half-assets rates.	Revenue rates sanctioned for this circle.	REVENUE RATES OF THE GUJRAT DISTRICT (BET JHELM.)	
					Khárán.	Phálián.
	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.
Irrigated ... ..	2 8 9	3 0 0	5 11 6	4 0 0	2 4 0	2 0 0
Sailáb ... ..	1 9 11	1 8 8	1 15 8	1 8 0	1 10 0	1 10 0
Hail and Bārání I ... ..	{ 1 11 9 1 12 1 }	1 8 0	2 13 3	1 12 0	0 13 0	0 10 0
Maira and Bakkar ... ..	1 4 4	1 0 0	1 8 9	1 1 6		

For the first Regular Settlement no revenue rates are on record, and the *khewat* rates by which the people actually distributed the demand are therefore substituted; the manner in which they were obtained is described in paragraph 95 of Major Wace's Assessment Report.

44. The Maidán Circle is for the most part a nearly level alluvial plain, including tracts of very varying fertility; it contains some of the best land in the district; but the southern part of the circle often suffers from drought, and is in other ways much inferior to the part north of the Kahán Torrent. Here, as in the River Bank Circle, there has been some deterioration since settlement, chiefly owing to the action of the Kahán and Bunhá Torrents. Practically the whole of the cultivation is unirrigated, *cháhi*, (good as far as it goes), amounting to only  $1\frac{1}{2}$  per cent., and the area of *sailáb* being nominal. Cultivation has increased since settlement by  $11\frac{1}{2}$  per cent., but the new land is bad.

One hundred acres of land grow on the average 103 acres of crops, of which 19 do not mature; the principal crops are wheat 43 per cent., *bájra* 21 per cent. and pulses 13 per cent.

Population has decreased by 3 per cent. since 1891, and is even a little less than in 1881; the density per square mile cultivated is 548, rather a high figure; the average holding is 9 acres. The land is for the most part held by good cultivators, chiefly Gujars and Jats; they have not, however, been very successful in keeping their land, of which nearly a quarter has been transferred since settlement,  $16\frac{1}{2}$  per cent. having gone to money-lenders. The land sold has realised about 98 times the revenue assessed on it.

45. Here, too, Major Wace's assessment was raised about 5 per cent. by the orders of the Financial Commissioner; the ultimate result being an enhancement of 15 per cent. The people have always had to pay a fairly full demand, and are good revenue-payers; the settlement has worked easily enough, the high transfers being here, as in the River Bank Circle, due to other causes.

The various estimates, and the demand finally fixed, are as follows :—

	Rs.
Half-assets	1,21,445
One-sixth gross produce	92,172
By rates of last settlement, enhanced for rise in prices, on new areas	92,203
Assessment of 1900-1901	73,313
Do. proposed	88,000
Do. sanctioned	91,100
Do. by sanctioned rates	90,816
Finally fixed	87,443

Here, as in all cases, I did my best to distribute the demand approved by Government; but had considerable difficulty in getting within the margin of 3 per cent. allowed; the deficiency is partly due to the fact that the finally corrected areas are somewhat less than stated in the Assessment Report; while the *jamás* announced do not include the assessment proposed for Government leased lands, amounting to Rs. 645.

The assessment is 72 per cent. of the half-assets estimate, and is  $19\frac{1}{2}$  per cent. in excess of the former demand.

The revenue rates sanctioned are compared below with the half-assets rates, and the corresponding rates of previous settlements :—

SOIL.	Khewat rates of Regular Set- tlement.	Revenue rates of Revised Set- tlement.	Half-assets rates.	REVENUE RATES.	
				Proposed.	Sanctioned.
	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.
Irrigated	2 10 3	3 0 0	4 7 8	3 8 0	3 8 0
Sailáb	...	...	...	1 4 0	1 4 0
Hail	1 11 1	1 8 0	2 13 7	1 14 0	1 14 0
Baráni I	1 10 0	1 0 0	1 8 0	1 1 9	1 2 6
Maira Rakkar	1 1 7	1 0 0	1 8 0	1 1 9	1 2 6

The assessment is, I think, somewhat full; but this is only what the owners have been accustomed to, and it should be paid without difficulty; the villages to the south of the circle are the weak part of it, and will need some attention.

The *jamás* announced were well received, though I believe they are higher than was expected; only 21 objections were lodged, none of which was accepted, though on reconsideration I, of my own motion, slightly reduced the assessment in one estate. There were 6 appeals to the Settlement Commissioner.

46. The Khuddar, or circle of ravines, is a straggling mass of hillocks and ravines, consisting of the Tilla and Lehrí Hills and the comparatively low-lying tract enclosed between them and the Nílí Range; except a few fertile earthy villages in the centre of the circle, the whole is a sandstone country, and the soil therefore usually light and sandy, and often very shallow; the best land lies low in broad open stretches on the banks of the principal torrents, or in ravines brought under cultivation by throwing embankments across them; but such embanked lands are not so common as the nature of the country might lead one to expect, and the bulk of the cultivation lies high on the plateaux between the ravines; the wells of this circle are good, but less than 1 per cent. of the land is irrigated. Cultivation has increased by 27 per cent., and there is still room for some further extension, but the new land will be of very poor quality, like the bulk of that brought under cultivation since last settlement.

One hundred acres of land yield 98 acres of crops yearly,—71 acres matured, and 27 acres failed: the cropping is insecure, the rainfall, particularly in the west of the circle, being scanty and uncertain. The chief crops are, wheat 42 per cent., *bájra* 25 per cent., pulses 12 per cent., and oilseeds 9 per cent.

A large proportion of the land is held by Gakkhars and other inferior agriculturists, but much of their land is cultivated by tenants who are better qualified in this respect than the owners; and the circle is on the whole fairly well cultivated. Population increased by 13 per cent. between 1881 and 1891, but has fallen 5 per cent. since; density 418 souls per square mile cultivated; holdings are of fair size, amounting on the average to 11 acres each.

Transfers are not so high as might have been expected from the character of the owners, only 14 per cent. in all, and of this 6 per cent. is to zamíndárs: the Gakkhars endeavour to keep their financial difficulties to themselves as much as they can, and the money-lenders of this circle are less exacting than is usually the case: transfers are therefore low, but unsecured debt is very high, amounting before 1899-1900 to about a quarter of the value of the land. Land sells for 97 time the old land revenue assessed on it.

47. Major Wace, who had to deal with an increase of 68 per cent. in cultivation, proposed an enhancement of 27 per cent. only, but under the orders of the Financial Commissioner this was ultimately raised to 35 per cent. The assessments have since been lightened by a further considerable increase of cultivation, and have been easily paid, except in the recent bad years, when this circle suffered very severely, and very large suspensions had to be allowed.

The following are the principal assessment statistics:—

	Rs.
Half-assets ... ..	88,697
One-sixth gross produce ... ..	65,490
By rates of former settlement ... ..	73,189
Assessment of 1900-1901 ... ..	49,088
Do. proposed ... ..	65,000
Do. sanctioned ... ..	68,000
Do. by sanctioned rates ... ..	67,860
Finally assessed ... ..	65,802

The remarks on the assessment of the Maidán Circle apply here: the amount of the proposed demand on Government leased land in this circle to be added to the final assessment shown above is Rs. 263.

The demand is 74 per cent. of the half-assets estimate, and is an increase of 34 per cent. on the old assessment.

Information bearing on the revenue rates is as follows:—

SOILS.	Khewat rates of Regular Settlement.	Revenue rates of Revised Set- tlement.	Half-assets rates by cash rents on 2,668 acres.	Half-assets rates.	REVENUE RATES	
					Proposed.	Sanctioned.
	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.
Irrigated ... ..	2 13 10	3 0 0	...	8 1 7	5 0 0	5 0 0
Hail ... ..	1 8 4	1 8 0	...	2 5 1	1 10 0	1 10 0
Bārāni I ... ..	1 5 3	1 8 0	...	2 5 1	1 10 0	1 10 0
Maira ... ..	0 14 11	0 12 0	0 11 10	0 15 10	0 15 0	0 18 6
Rakkar ... ..	0 14 11	0 12 0	0 11 10	0 15 10	0 7 0	0 18 6

Considering the character of the owners, the poor quality of much of the land, and the insecurity of part of the circle, owing to its liability to drought, I think the new demand is quite high enough: but it is not itself a high assessment and ought to work easily. The people seem generally to consider their new *jamas* reasonable and only five objections were lodged; in this circle the large enhancements taken are supported in most cases by an equivalent or almost equivalent increase in cultivation; and that is the one argument that appeals readily to the zamíndár. If you can tell him that his assessment has been raised in proportion to the increase in cultivation, he goes away perfectly satisfied, even though the new land may be nearly all *rakkar*.

48. The Pabbí Circle consists of the Nílí Range, and the narrow strip of elevated country to the north of it; it is much cut up by ravines, but except in the north-east of the circle these are much less intricate than those of the Khuddar, and the general character of the Pabbí is much more open. It is a country of grey sandstone, with light and often shallow soil overlying the rock, and in this respect it contrasts strongly with the Gujar Khan Tahsil of the Ráwalpindi District which, at any rate in the parts adjoining the Pabbí, is a soft earthy tract, of far greater natural advantages. Practically the whole of the land is unirrigated, and the land is not of very good quality, but the rainfall, except to the west, is tolerably certain, and the land being in good hands yields better than would be expected. Cultivation has increased by 18 per cent., the new land being poor.

One hundred acres of land grows annually 100 acres of crops, 73 matured and 27 failed, but in this circle the percentage of *kharāba* above stated probably exceeds the normal. The principal crops are wheat 46 per cent., *bājra* 22 per cent., and pulses 15 per cent.

The bulk of the land is held by good cultivators, Jats, Gujars and Awáns: population is practically the same as in 1881, the rapid increase of 17 per cent. up to 1891, having been followed by 13 per cent. decrease since that year. The density per square mile of cultivation is 421, which is not a high figure; 9 acres is the average holding.

The people do not easily part with their land, and transfers amount to only 14 per cent. of the cultivation, about half of this being to zamíndárs; unsecured debt is however high, amounting to Rs. 7-8-0 per acre. The people are less improvident than those of the other circles, but they did not come well through the recent droughts, and have lost much of their former prosperity.

49. Here, as in the Khuddar, Major Wace had a very large increase of cultivation to assess, amounting to 51 per cent.; he proposed a very small enhancement, and the increase eventually taken under the Financial Commissioner's orders was only 18 per cent.: the assessment was nevertheless comparatively high, but the people of this circle have always been accustomed to a fairly high demand, and until the recent troubles had prospered under the settlement, and had paid their dues without pressure; but the present state of the circle is not satisfactory.

The principal assessment statistics are as follows :—

	Rs.
Half-assets ... ..	43,821
One-sixth gross produce ... ..	32,376
By rates of former settlement ... ..	40,833
Assessment of 1900-1901 ... ..	31,173
Do. proposed ... ..	37,500
Do. sanctioned ... ..	38,706
Do. by sanctioned rates ... ..	37,660
Do. finally fixed ... ..	37,742

The deduction due to the exclusion of Government leased lands is Rs. 46.

The revenue rates are shown in the following table :—

SOILS.	Khewat rates of Regular Settlement.	Revenue rates of Revised Settlement.	Half-assets rates.	REVENUE RATES		Revenue rates of Gujar Khan.
				Proposed.	Sanctioned.	
	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.
Irrigated ... ..	3 10 2	3 8 0	6 2 3	4 0 0	4 0 0	4 0 0
Hail ... ..	2 1 0	2 0 0	2 5 1	1 12 0	2 0 0	2 0 0
Bārāni I ... ..	1 15 9	2 0 0	2 5 1	1 12 0	2 0 0	1 5 0
Maira ... ..	1 2 6	0 14 0	1 1 10	1 0 0	1 0 0	1 0 0
Rakkar ... ..	1 2 6	0 14 0	1 1 10	1 0 0	1 0 0	0 6 0

The final demand is 86 per cent. of half-assets, and yields an increase over the former assessment of 21 per cent.

This leaves the circle, in my opinion, probably the most highly assessed in the district, for its natural advantages are not great; but it is strong in its proprietary, who are good revenue-payers as well as good cultivators, and once the effects of the drought are passed, the demand will be paid with ease; for the next year or two, however, bad harvests should be met with liberal suspensions especially in the west of the tract, where they are most likely to occur.

The assessments were well received, only two objections being filed, which were rejected. There were no appeals.

Summary for the Jhelum  
Tahsil.

50. For the whole Tahsil the figures are as follows :—

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
ASSESSMENT CIRCLE.	Of Regular Settlement.	TOTAL ASSESSMENT IN RUPEES				By sanctioned rates.	Finally fixed, including assessment of Gov- ernment leased lands.	Assessment of mills, para. 72 below.	Total demand.	INCREASE.	
		Of second Regular Settlement.	Of last year of for- mer Settlement.	Proposed by Set- tlement Officer.	Sanctioned by Government.					Rupees.	Per cent.
River Bank ...	41,476	36,520	34,896	38,000	38,000	39,346	39,798	575	40,373	5,477	15.7
Maidān ...	64,360	72,672	73,313	88,000	91,100	90,816	88,088	138	88,226	14,913	20.3
Khuddar ...	36,460	48,911	49,088	65,000	68,000	67,860	66,065	13	66,078	16,990	34.6
Pabbi ...	26,424	31,087	31,173	37,500	38,706	37,660	37,788	70	37,858	6,685	21.4
Tahsil ...	1,68,720	1,89,190	1,88,470	2,28,500	2,35,806	2,35,682	2,31,739	796	2,32,535	44,065	23.4

For the whole Tahsil the final assessments are 1.4 per cent. short of the amount sanctioned by Government.

#### ASSESSMENT OF THE PIND DADAN KHAN TAHSIL.

51. The Hill Circle includes the whole of the Salt Range lying in this Tahsil, together with the small valley of Vagh below it to the east : the land of the latter resembles that of the Jhelum Khuddar, rather than that of the Hills proper, which is a rather heavy productive loam, partly lying in high exposed uplands, partly in valleys

Assessment of the Pind  
Dādan Khān Tahsil.  
HILLS CIRCLE.  
General description.

overhung by hills, which if of limestone contribute much by their drainage to the fertility of the land below; only  $1\frac{1}{2}$  per cent. of the cultivation is irrigated, but at any rate in the east and centre of the circle the rainfall seldom fails badly. Cultivation has increased by 16 per cent. since settlement.

One hundred acres of land bear 106 acres of crops per annum, 86 matured and 20 failed; wheat 48 per cent. and *bājra* 25 per cent. are the most important crops.

Rather more than a quarter of the land is held by Janjuás and other inferior cultivators, but the rest is in competent hands, and is well cultivated. Population has increased by 8 per cent. since 1881, but is 3 per cent. less than in 1891; the increase in cultivation since settlement is greater than that in population, but the density per square mile cultivated is still high, being 589. Holdings average  $10\frac{1}{2}$  acres, and are not therefore on the whole very small, but some parts of the circle have hardly enough land to support the population without other aids, which are afforded by Government service, and employment in the Coal Mines.

In some parts of the circle transfers are high; and for the tract as a whole they amount to  $22\frac{1}{2}$  per cent., over half to zamíndárs; the land sold has realised 113 times the revenue assessed on it. Unsecured debt at Rs. 4 per acre is not high considering the quality of the land; and until the recent bad years the circle might have been called prosperous.

52. The Financial Commissioner raised Major Wace's assessment by 5 per cent. the resulting enhancement being 13 per cent. against an increase in cultivation of 25 per cent. The settlement has worked well, though collections in the turbulent *Vunhár iláka* in the west often give some trouble, partly because the owners are not well off but chiefly owing to their defects of character. This part of the circle suffered severely in the late drought.

The principal assessment statistics are as follows:—

	Rs.
Half-assets ... ..	1,23,260
One-sixth gross produce ... ..	89,989
By rates of former settlement ... ..	94,004
Assessment of 1898-99 ... ..	67,606
Do. proposed ... ..	83,956
Do. sanctioned ... ..	87,000
Do. by sanctioned rates ... ..	81,631
Do. finally fixed ... ..	84,310

The amount of the proposed assessment on Government leased lands, included in the demand sanctioned, but excluded from the assessment finally fixed as shown above, is Rs. 696.

Information regarding the revenue rates is given below:—

Soil.	Khewat rates of first Regular Settlement.	Revenue rate of second Regular Settlement.	Half-assets rates.	REVENUE RATES		Rates sanctioned for Khusháb Hill Circle.
				Proposed.	Sanctioned.	
	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.
Cháhi ... ..	3 13 5	4 0 0	6 14 6	5 0 0	5 0 0	4 0 0
Bail ... ..	1 14 5	2 8 0	2 2 0	1 7 0	1 8 0	1 10 0
Bárání, I. ... ..	1 5 8	1 4 0				
Maira ... ..	1 3 9	0 12 0	1 0 0	0 11 0	0 11 0	1 0 0
Rakkar ... ..						

The final demand is 68 per cent. of the half-assets demand and gives an enhancement of 25 per cent.

I think the assessment is fairly full; the circle is no doubt a good one; but the assessments in the east of it are high for any unirrigated land,

and in the west the cropping is uncertain. The all-round rate on cultivation is Re. 1-5-0 per acre here against Re. 1-2-0 in the similar Hill Circle of the Sháhpur District, the rate per acre of crops harvested being Re. 1-7-0 against Re. 1-4 0; having marched through the Sháhpur Hills from end to end, I think I may safely say that all things considered the circle is not inferior to the Pind Dádan Khán hills; it has probably a lighter rainfall, but on the other hand much less of the land lies in high exposed uplands, and its general quality seems to be in no way inferior to that of the Pind Dádan Khán Circle.

A number of the small estates near Bishárat, in the east of the circle, are now assessed at very high rates; I believe they can pay them without loss of prosperity, but their condition should be watched. The weaker villages in the west of the circle will also need attention.

The new *jamás* were fairly well received: there were fourteen objections of which one was accepted, and no appeals.

53. This small circle of only thirteen villages is part of the submontane tract, and differs from the very insecure Thal to the west of it chiefly in enjoying a more certain rainfall and more copious floods from the hills; and in being owned by better zamíndárs. The best land of the circle is exceedingly productive in fairly good years; but a large area to the south has been destroyed by *shor*, and much more is tainted; damage from this cause increased considerably during the last few years, but some recovery is possible on the occurrence of one or two successive years of good rainfall; and the Jalálpur Canal will reclaim, if made, a large proportion of the land at present useless; the local rainfall is rather small, and the cultivation depends to a great extent on the floods from the hills. Cultivation is practically the same as at settlement; some new land has been broken up in the part of the circle unaffected by *shor*, but an equal area has become too sour for cultivation, and the exchange is not for the better.

On 100 acres, 85 acres of crops are grown yearly, of which 65 acres only come to maturity: the principal crops are wheat 53 per cent, *báira* 20 per cent., and cotton 7 per cent.

The land is well cultivated and carefully embanked to catch the flood water from the hills, the owners being nearly all Phaphra Jats, who are good agriculturists; population increased by 12 per cent. between 1881 and 1891, but has decreased by 8 per cent. since, and is now little more than in 1881, owing to the bad seasons which have lately been experienced, when this circle was amongst those which suffered severely. The density per square mile cultivated is 533; holdings, with an average of  $16\frac{1}{2}$  acres each, are not, however, small.

Little land has been sold outright, only  $4\frac{1}{2}$  per cent. in all; but mortgages are heavy, amounting to  $23\frac{1}{2}$  per cent. of the land: apart from the effect of the recent drought, the circle was not unprosperous, and these high mortgages are rather hard to account for; but damage by *shor* has no doubt had some part in causing them.

The sale price per acre averages Rs. 116 or 112 times the land revenue demand.

54. With an increase in cultivation of 42 per cent., Major Wace proposed to raise the demand 7 per cent. only; but under the orders of superior authority the enhancement eventually taken was 11 per cent.: though the rates in this circle are comparatively high, the assessment has been paid without difficulty until recently.

The principal assessment statistics are as follows:—

	Rs.
Half-assets ... ..	21,599
One-sixth gross produce ... ..	15,906
By rates of former settlement ... ..	23,131
Assessment of 1898-1899 ... ..	18,405
Do. proposed and sanctioned ... ..	19,120
Do. by sanctioned rates ... ..	16,969
Do. finally fixed ... ..	19,709

The following are the revenue rates :—

Soil.	Khewat rates of first Regular Settlement.	Revenue rates of second Regu- lar Settlement.	Half-assets rates.	Revenue rates sanctioned.
	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.
Cháhi ... ..	2 15 7.	2 4 0	2 7 6	2 3 0
Abi ... ..			2 11 6	2 0 0
Hail ... ..			1 3 0	1 5 0
Bárání Awwal ... ..	1 4 11	1 3 0	0 12 0	0 11 0
Maira ... ..				
Rakkar ... ..				

The final assessment is 91 per cent. of the half-assets estimate, and considerably exceeds one-sixth of the estimated gross produce, and as those estimates were based on an average cultivated area 15 per cent. in excess of that now recorded, the inference that the demand is decidedly full would seem to be justified. I nevertheless had no difficulty in distributing an assessment somewhat over 3 per cent. in excess of the amount sanctioned, and although two out of thirteen villages lodged objections, the *jamás* were, I think, well received; the assumed rates of yield were, in my opinion, rather too low, and in revising them I have raised them somewhat, as shown below for the two most important crops, though the half-assets demand has not been recalculated.

	Irrigated.	Superior bárání.	Maira.	Rakkar.
Wheat ... ..	(360) 360	(280) 320	(160) 200	(160) 160
Bájra ... ..	(320) 380	(240) 280	(140) 160	(140) 120

(Rates in sérs per acre ; figures in brackets are those of the Assessment Reports, and the others are those now assumed).

The demand will, I believe, be easily paid, and it might have been possible to go a little higher ; but considering the decrease in cultivation of late, and the indebtedness of the owners, the small enhancement taken is sufficient ; it amounts to 7 per cent. only.

55. This circle includes the dry submontane tract lying between the Phaphra Circle on the east, and the similar Mohár Circle of the Shahpur District on the west ; the rainfall is scanty and precarious in the extreme, especially in the west of the circle ; over half the land is classed as *bárání I*, which means that it benefits by the floods from the hills after heavy rain, on which the success of the cultivation of the tract largely depends ; for the soil, though productive, is very thirsty, and the local rainfall, except in the very best years, is quite insufficient to mature a crop : unfortunately the rainfall in that part of the hills which adjoins a great deal of the Thal is itself comparatively small and uncertain, and the hill floods are often inadequate ; the Thal does well if it gets one year good out of every three. The circle is almost entirely *bárání* though a few large villages stretch down to the river, and 2 per cent. of the cultivation is *sailáb* of average quality ; only 1 per cent. of the land is irrigated, and the wells are of a very poor type, often far from sweet, and worked as a rule only in the rabi harvest. The area figures shown in the assessment report gave a nominal increase in cultivation of 42 per cent., but in paragraph 61 of the report I pointed out that the difference between cultivated and culturable land is here much less clearly defined than in less precarious tracts, and that the total of the two together had increased by 14 per cent. only ; the conclusion arrived at, that the real increase in cultivation was not less than 20 per cent., is borne out by the results of the remeasurements, which show an increase of 25 per cent. ; this may be taken as fairly correct.

THAL CIRCLE.  
General description.



One hundred acres of land grows 78 acres of crops yearly, 28 failed and only 50 matured, the variation from year to year being very great; the chief crops are wheat 45 per cent., *bājra* 25 per cent. and cotton 14 per cent. The kharif is of more importance in this circle than in the rest of the district, 48 per cent. of the crops being grown in that harvest.

The proprietors are mostly Awāns and Jats, fairly good cultivators, who work very hard on the elaborate system of embankments, often of great size, designed to catch the flood water from the hills: population has fallen 9 per cent. since 1881 and 5 per cent. since 1891. There were signs of an increasing population a few years ago; but the decrease of late is genuine enough. The density per square mile cultivated is 259 only, and holdings are large, nearly 24 acres each on the average: but the land is not of a character to support a dense population.

Transfers amount to  $8\frac{1}{2}$  per cent. sold and 15 per cent. mortgaged, mostly to money-lenders: unsecured debt at nearly Rs. 6 per acre is high, considering the value of the land, of which the sale price is only 48 times the former land revenue. The circle is naturally not a prosperous one, but both men and cattle are accustomed to drought, and have suffered less from the recent scarcity than many others. Their habit of going off to labour on the Sháhpur Canals and elsewhere is useful on an occasion of this kind.

56. Major Wace's remarks as to the assessment of this circle will be found in paragraph 184 of the Final Settlement Report.   
 Assessment. Against an increase in cultivation of 64 per cent., which he distrusted, he proposed an enhancement of 6 per cent. only; his "unwillingness to increase the assessment in a greater degree excited unfavourable comment," and eventually an enhancement of 12 per cent. was taken; he remarked that he was himself thoroughly satisfied that the assessment was a full and sufficient one. It has been paid as well as any fixed assessment can be expected to be paid in a tract of this kind, for although the amounts suspended have been large, they have all been paid eventually until recent years, and that without any apparent loss of prosperity. But apart from the uncertainty of the cropping collections are often difficult owing to the migratory habits of the people.

The principal assessment statistics are as follows:—

								Rs.
Half-assets	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	52,553
One-sixth gross produce	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	41,778
By rates of former settlement	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	54,005
Assessment of 1898-99	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	39,595
Do. proposed	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	41,924
Do. sanctioned	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	45,000
Do. by sanctioned rates	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	38,490
Do. finally fixed	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	44,018

The revenue rates, and connected information, are given below:—

Soil.	Khowat rates of first Regular Settlement.	Revenue rates of second Regular Settlement.	Half-assets rates.	REVENUE RATES.		MR. WILSON'S RATES SANCTIONED FOR SHAHPUR.	
				Proposed.	Sanctioned.	Mohar Circle.	Khushab-Jhelum.
Irrigated ... ..	Rs. a. p. 2 8 7	Rs. a. p. 2 4 0	Rs. a. p. 1 7 0	Rs. a. p. 1 2 0	Rs. a. p. 1 5 0	Rs. a. p. ...	Rs. a. p. ...
Sailāb ... ..	1 9 8	1 4 0	2 1 0	1 9 0	1 12 0	...	1 12 0
Hail ... ..	1 4 4	0 13 0	0 15 0	0 12 0	0 13 6	1 0 0	...
Bárāni I ... ..	...						
Maira ... ..	1 5 5						
Rakkar ... ..	...	...	0 7 0	0 6 0	0 6 0	0 5 0	...

The final assessment is 84 per cent. of half-assets, and is an increase of 11 per cent. on the former demand; in dealing with a tract of this kind moderation is necessary, but I am inclined to think that a slightly larger enhance-

ment might have been taken, though on the whole the new demand is sufficient. The all-round rate on cultivation is Re. 0-11-11 per acre in the Thal, excluding *sailáb*, against Re. 0-11-10 in the Shahpur Mohár.

The people were fairly well satisfied with the assessments; four villages filed objections, one of them successful.

An important question considered in connection with the assessment of this circle was whether it should not be placed under a fluctuating assessment; it was pointed out that owing to the great uncertainty of the cropping this was in theory undoubtedly the right course to adopt; and that the circle being compact and easily accessible, with the head-quarters of an Assistant Commissioner and a Tahsildar at one extremity of it, the working of the system could be well supervised; and that if a fluctuating assessment can in any *bárání* tract be satisfactorily worked, it is workable here; on the other hand the people were strongly opposed to the introduction of the system, fearing with reason that it would give the Revenue subordinates many opportunities of troubling them, and that in the long run they would have more to pay. The Financial Commissioner, Mr. Thorburn, remarked that every economic argument was in favour of a fluctuating assessment, which would give Government more revenue, and would be more accommodating to the fluctuating ability of the people to pay than can be the case under fixity; but the owners being unanimous against the change, he did not think that we should force elasticity on them; power should, however, be reserved to introduce the system of fluctuating assessment, without the consent of owners, in estates of which the settlement has practically broken down, "the criterion to be the suspension of revenue amounting to the full demand in any estate for two years." These proposals were agreed to by the Lieutenant-Governor, and the fixed assessments have been announced subject to this condition.\*

It is perhaps superfluous to add that the revenue administration of the circle will always be troublesome, and will require the Collector's closest attention: he will do well to make more use of the services of the Sub-Divisional Officer in this connection than has been customary in the past.

57. The River Bank Circle includes, with a few exceptions, the whole of the villages affected by river action, and also the low-lying alluvial plain, extensively irrigated from wells, which in the east of the Tahsil fills almost the whole of the space between the hills and the river; nearly a third of the land is *sailáb*, and nearly a third more is *cháhi*; the *sailáb* is of very fair quality, and is superior to that in the Jhelum Tahsil, though inferior to the land on the other side of the river in Shahpur and Gujrát, probably owing to the persistency with which the stream has cut into the Jhelum bank for many years past. The wells are a great feature of the circle, which with 22 per cent. of the wells, contains 66 per cent. of the total *cháhi* area of the district, with an average per well of about 17 acres; the area irrigated has perhaps been somewhat exaggerated, for while the *cháhi* recorded has increased by 4 per cent., wells have not increased in proportion: as, however, 100 acres of *cháhi* land produces 105 acres of crops harvested, the exaggeration is not great. *Shor* is a great hindrance in a large part of the circle, and has led to the abandonment of many wells, while many others are tainted and their efficiency is much impaired; *shor* has also spoilt a large area of *bárání* land, and has increased considerably during the last decade; where sweet the *bárání* land is a moderate alluvial loam of fair fertility. Cultivation has increased by 7 per cent. since settlement, while the demand has been reduced by 3 per cent. under the di-alluvion rules.

One hundred acres of land produce 91 acres of crops matured, in addition to 10 acres failed; the cropping is unusually secure for this district, so much of the cultivation being protected by irrigation or river floods; the wells do not run dry in seasons of drought, though the outturn is of course affected. The principal crops are wheat 67 per cent., and *tájra* 11 per cent.

\* Some further correspondence regarding the introduction of a system of fluctuating assessment in this district is that ending with letter No. 2128, dated 4th April 1901, from Junior Secretary to Financial Commissioner to Settlement Commissioner, Punjab: it relates to an abortive proposal to introduce the system tentatively in the Tallagang Tahsil.

Population increased by 4 per cent. between 1881 and 1891, and again between 1891 and 1901.

The owners are not of a very high order as agriculturists, but on the whole the land is fairly well cultivated; the people are not good managers and indebtedness is serious, transfers amounting to  $25\frac{1}{2}$  per cent. of the cultivation, most of them to *sáhúkars*. There is a large demand for land by the monied classes in Pind Dádan Khán and the larger villages; it sells for about 74 times the old land revenue assessed on it.

58. Major Wace considered that the circle "was undoubtedly heavily assessed" at the first regular settlement, and wished to take an enhancement of only 7 per cent.; the Financial Commissioner disagreeing with him raised his *cháhi* and *sailáb* rates by four annas per acre each, but accepted an assessment  $8\frac{1}{2}$  per cent. below rates; the result was an increase of 9 per cent. The Settlement Officer remained of the opinion that the assessment was a full one, and that his *cháhi* rate of Rs.  $2\frac{1}{2}$  per acre was sufficient: the settlement has, however worked smoothly, and cannot be held responsible for the unsatisfactory state of the circle, which is due rather to want of thrift, the action of the river, the increase of *shor*, and the accidents and expenses of well-cultivation.

The assessment *data* are as follows:—

	Rs.
Half-assets ... ..	1,30,947
One-sixth gross produce ... ..	97,834
By rates of former settlement ... ..	1,05,228
Assessment of 1898-99 ... ..	75,784
Do. proposed ... ..	97,000
Do. sanctioned ... ..	1,00,000
Do. by sanctioned rates ... ..	94,737
Do. finally fixed ... ..	93,637

To the final assessment should be added a sum of Rs. 721, being the proposed demand on Government leased lands, included in the Assessment Report but now excluded; the failure to distribute the full amount demanded by Government was largely due to loss of land by river action after the submission of the report.

The Revenue rates are shown below with information relating to them:

SOIL.	Khowat rates of first Regular Settlement.	Revenue rates of second Regular Settlement.	Half-assets rates.	REVENUE RATES.		SHAHPUR AND GUJRAT RATES.			
				Proposed.	Sanctioned.	Bhera-Jhelum.	Shahpur-Jhelum.	Kusháb-Jhelum.	Pháliá-Jhelum.
	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.
Irrigated ... ..	2 5 1	2 8 0	3 0 0	2 4 0	2 6 0	2 6 0	1 7 0	1 14 0	3 0 0
Sailab ... ..	1 11 1	1 8 0	2 4 0	1 11 0	1 12 0	2 0 0	1 9 0	1 12 0	1 10 0
Hail ... ..	1 5 11	0 14 0	1 6 0	1 0 0	1 0 0	0 6 0	0 6 0	0 6 0	0 10 0
Bárání ... ..	1 8 4								
Maira ... ..	1 7 9	0 14 0	1 0 0	0 12 0	0 12 0				
Rakkar ... ..									

The assessment is 72 per cent. of the half-assets demand, and gives an enhancement of 24 per cent.

I think that my proposed rates in this circle were too high rather than too low, and the demand finally fixed is decidedly full, though there is no reason to doubt the ability of the circle to pay it. The owners have reason to be thankful that under the new Di-alluvion Assessment Rules they will be entitled to remissions on account of land damaged by *shor*.

The people did not seem very well satisfied with the assessment, but only ten objections and one appeal were filed, two of the former being successful.

59. The following is a summary of the figures for the tahsil :—

ASSESSMENT CIRCLE.	TOTAL ASSESSMENT IN RUPEES							Assessment on mills (see paragraph 72 below).	Total demand.	INCREASE.	
	Of first Regular Settlement.	Of second Regular Settlement.	Of last year of expiring Settlement.	Proposed by Settlement Officer.	Sanctioned by Government.	By sanctioned rates.	Finally fixed, including proposed assessment of Government leased lands.			Rupees.	Per cent.
Hills ...	59,331	67,114	67,606	83,956	87,000	81,631	85,006	204	85,210	17,604	36
Phaphra ...	10,067	18,609	18,405	19,120	19,120	16,969	19,709	...	19,709	1,304	7.1
Thal ...	35,779	41,482	39,595	41,924	45,000	38,490	44,018	189	44,207	4,612	11.6
River Bank ...	71,547	78,087	75,784	97,000	1,00,000	94,737	94,358	160	94,518	18,734	24.7
Tahsil ...	1,82,724	2,05,292	2,01,390	2,42,000	2,51,120	2,31,827	2,43,091	553	2,43,644	42,254	21.0

For the whole Tahsil the amount actually assessed falls short of the demand sanctioned by Government by 3.1 per cent. but is 4.8 per cent. above the sum given by applying the sanctioned revenue rates to the latest areas when the new *jumas* were fixed.

#### ASSESSMENT OF THE CHAKWAL TAHSIL.

60. The Lundi Patti Circle is a strip of country about 8 miles wide, along the eastern border of the tahsil: the ordinary land of the circle is a light sandy soil, with the sandstone bed rock often near the surface, and much resembling that of the Jhelum Pabbi; there is, however, much poor uneven stony land in the south of the circle under the Salt Range. The rainfall is fairly good but is very uncertain, especially in the south of the tract, which seems to be peculiarly liable to drought. Cultivation has increased by 16 per cent. since settlement, but the new land is mostly very poor.

One hundred acres of land bears 102 acres of crops in the year, of which 83 mature and 19 fail; wheat 50 per cent., *bājra* 18 per cent., and pulses 13 per cent. are the principal crops.

The people are generally quiet and industrious, to which qualities thrift is added in the northern part of the circle, and a quite abnormal stupidity in most of the villages to the extreme south: this is the only *bārāni* circle in which population has increased since 1891, the increase being 6 per cent. since that year, and 12 per cent. since 1881, a somewhat surprising result, as a great part of the circle felt the scarcity very severely. Density of population is 361 per square mile cultivated; and holdings average 13 acres.

Sales amount to 13 per cent. of the cultivation, and mortgages to 9 per cent., rather more than half the total to *sāhukārs*. The circle on the whole, before the recent troubles, was a fairly prosperous one, part of it remarkably so. The average sale price is Rs. 76 per acre, or 9½ times the land revenue.

61. The enhancement taken at last settlement was, after Major Wace's assessment has been raised by the Financial Commissioner, 22 per cent. against 41 per cent. increase in cultivation, making a comparatively full demand. The settlement has worked well on the whole though occasional suspensions were necessary in the south of the circle even before 1899-1900.

The principal assessment statistics are as follows :—

	Rs.
Half-assets ...	91,258
One-sixth gross produce ...	67,429
By rates of former settlement ...	61,316
Assessment of 1900-01 ...	46,911
" proposed ...	58,000
" sanctioned ...	61,000
" by sanctioned rates ...	59,150
" finally fixed ...	59,324

Information regarding the revenue rates is given below :—

Soil.	Khwat rates of first Regular Settlement.	Revenue rates of second Regular Settlement.	Half-assets rates.	REVENUE RATES		Revenue rates of Gujar Khan.
				Proposed.	Sanctioned.	
	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.
Irrigated ... ..	5 6 0	5 0 0	6 11 10	5 0 0	5 0 0	4 0 0
Hail ... ..	1 10 0	1 8 0	2 4 4	1 8 0	1 9 0	2 0 0
Bárání I ... ..	1 8 0					
Maira ... ..	0 14 0	0 12 0	1 5 3	0 13 3	0 14 0	1 0 0
Rakkar ... ..						
						0 6 0

I shall make some remarks about the new assessments in general and the Chakwál assessments in particular in a subsequent paragraph, and therefore only say here that I consider the demand full: the people were of the same opinion, and the new *jamas* were not well received; 14 out of 88 villages filed objections, none of which were accepted; only two villages have appealed to the Settlement Commissioner.

The new demand is 65 per cent. of the estimated half-assets, and the enhancement on the old *jama* is 26½ per cent.

62. All the rest of the Chakwál Tahsil is included in the Dhanni Circle; here, too, the ordinary land is a light sandy soil, but with much too of a different character, ranging from a middling loam to heavy clay; on the whole the land of this circle is better in its natural qualities than that of the Lundí Patti, but it has a smaller rainfall, and is not so well cultivated. Only 1 per cent. is irrigated, the wells being on the whole of good quality; the bulk of the *bárání* is ordinary *maira*, there being little embanked land. Cultivation has increased by 8 per cent. only, and the new land is mostly inferior.

On 100 acres of land 100 acres of crops are grown, 81 matured and 19 failed; the chief crops are, wheat 48 per cent., *bājra* 17 per cent.

The Mairs, Kassars and Kahúts own most of the circle, and are alike in their main characteristics, great extravagance and bitter faction feeling; they are very fond of amusements, and take frequent holidays to attend all the available fairs, besides local bullock-matches, quail fights, and similar diversions. Otherwise they are tolerably good agriculturists. Population has increased by about 2 per cent. since 1881, but has decreased by 4½ per cent. since 1891: the density per square mile cultivated is 277 only, and holdings are fairly large, the average being 19 acres of cultivation.

Transfers amount to 12½ per cent. sold and 9½ per cent. mortgaged mostly to *sáhúkars*; considering the character of the people this is not more than might have been expected.

63. Major Wace's assessments were raised here as in other circles by the Financial Commissioner, Colonel Davies, and the enhancement finally taken was the same as in the Lundí Patti, 22 per cent. cultivation having increased 36 per cent. The assessment has been easily paid in ordinary years.

The principal assessment statistics are as follows :—

	Rs.
Half-assets ... ..	3,92,220
One-sixth gross produce ... ..	2,83,507
By rates of former settlement ... ..	2,21,458
Assessment of 1900-1901 ... ..	1,73,172
„ proposed ... ..	2,15,000
„ sanctioned ... ..	2,30,000
„ by sanctioned rates ... ..	2,25,581
„ finally fixed ... ..	2,22,974

To the last item should be added a sum of Rs. 650, the assessment proposed on Government leased lands.

Information regarding the revenue rates is given below.

Soil.	Khewat rates of first Regular Settlement.	Revenue rates of second Regular Settlement.	Half-assets rates.	REVENUE RATES	
				Proposed.	Sanctioned.
	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.
Irrigated ... ..	5 3 0	5 0 0	7 0 1	5 0 0	5 0 0
Hail ... ..	1 4 0	1 0 0	2 1 2	1 4 0	1 6 0
Bārani I ... ..	1 1 0				
Maira ... ..	0 11 0	0 9 0	1 4 4	0 10 9	0 11 6
Rakkar ... ..					

I reserve my remarks as to the assessment in this circle, but note here that the new *jamas* were not well received, which was only to be expected; the agitation about them was to some extent artificial, being got up by a few busy-bodies; but there is no doubt that they are considered very severe. The number of objections and appeals was 83 and 28, respectively; all the objections were rejected, and the appeals are undecided.

The final demand gives an enhancement of rather over 29 per cent. and amounts to 57 per cent. of the half-assets estimate.

Summary, Tahsil Chak-wāl.

64. The following is a summary of the figures for the whole Tahsil :—

Assessment Circle.	Of first Regular Settlement.	Of second Regular Settlement.	Of last year of expiring Settlement.	Proposed by Settlement Officer.	Sanctioned by Government.	By sanctioned rates.	Finally fixed, including proposed assessment of Government leased land.	Assessment on mills (see paragraph 72 below).	Total demand.	INCREASE.	
										Rupees.	Per cent.
Lundi Patti ...	38,477	46,661	46,911	58,000	61,000	59,150	59,324	...	59,324	12,413	26.5
Dhanni ...	1,42,012	1,70,715	1,73,172	2,15,000	2,30,000	2,25,581	2,23,624	12	2,23,636	50,464	29.1
Total ...	1,80,489	2,17,376	2,20,083	2,73,000	2,91,000	2,84,731	2,82,948	12	2,82,960	62,877	28.6

For the Tahsil, the final demand is 2.8 per cent. less than the assessment sanctioned by Government, but .6 per cent. above the amount yielded by the sanctioned revenue rates on the finally corrected areas.

#### ASSESSMENT OF THE TALLAGANG TAHSIL.

65. The whole of this Tahsil is one Assessment Circle; it is part of the northern plateau, the general character of which has been described above in paragraph 5. It is the westernmost portion of the plateau, and therefore gets the least favourable rainfall; its soil, too, though good enough in places, as for instance around Tallagang itself, is usually very sandy and coarse, and is incapable of yielding a heavy crop, being in this respect the worst land in the district; the methods of cultivation are those that would be expected in a tract of this character, being as rough as the land itself. Cultivation has increased by 15 per cent. since settlement, and there is room for some further expansion, as soon as population and cattle recover the ground they have lost in the last year or two; the new land is as usual much inferior to the old.

ASSESSMENT OF THE TALLAGANG TAHSIL.  
General description.

One hundred acres of land produce 91 acres of crops in the year, of which 75 are matured and 17 fail; wheat 51 per cent., gram 14 per cent. and *bājra* 13 per cent. are the most important crops; gram grows very well on the coarse sandy soils of the Tahsil. Only a trifling percentage of the land is irrigated, the irrigation being good as far as it goes, though the crops grown by it are not of a high class.

The prevailing rent rate is one-third produce, instead of the half share usual elsewhere in the district.

The owners are nearly all Awáns, quite as vindictive in their factions as their neighbours of the Dhanni; but not quite so foolishly extravagant and rather more industrious. Their methods of cultivation, though rough, are well suited to the present conditions of the tract. Population was stationary between 1881 and 1891, and has fallen  $2\frac{1}{2}$  per cent. since. The density per square mile cultivated is 199 only, and holdings average 31 acres; the tract is not capable of supporting a dense population, but there is certainly room for a considerable advance on the present figures.

Nine per cent. of the land has been sold since settlement, chiefly to zamindárs, and  $10\frac{1}{2}$  per cent. has been mortgaged chiefly to money-lenders; unsecured debt, at about two rupees per acre cultivated, is high, considering the quality of the land, which sells at about Rs. 26 per acre, or 62 years purchase of the land revenue assessed on it.

Until the recent droughts the Tahsil did not seem to be unprosperous.

66. Major Wace's original assessments were in this circle raised by 5 per cent. and the final demand was 34 per cent. higher than that which it replaced, while cultivation had increased by 54 per cent. The settlement had worked easily and well throughout until the recent bad harvests.

The principal assessment statistics are as follows:—

	Rs.
Half-assets ... ..	2,17,334
One-sixth gross produce ... ..	2,42,943
By rates of former settlement ... ..	1,75,578
Assessment of 1900-1901 ... ..	1,21,375
Do. proposed ... ..	1,60,500
Do. sanctioned ... ..	1,62,000
Do. by sanctioned rates ... ..	1,57,380
Do. finally fixed ... ..	1,59,526

To the last item should be added Rs. 322, the amount of the proposed assessment on Government leased lands, giving a total of Rs. 1,59,848.

The revenue rates are shown below.

SOIL.	Khevat rates of first Regular Settlement.	Revenue rates of second Regular Settlement.	Half-assets rates.	REVENUE RATES		REVENUE RATES ADOPTED IN		
				Proposed.	Sanctioned.	Pakhar circle of Mianwali.	Jandul circle of Pindigheb.	Sil circle of Pindigheb.
	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.
Irrigated ... ..	3 8 0	3 12 0	4 15 2	4 4 0	4 4 0	2 0 0	3 0 0	4 0 0
Hail ... ..	0 10 6	0 14 0	1 1 0	0 12 6	0 14 0	0 13 0	0 12 0	0 12 0
Bárání I ... ..	0 12 6							
Maira ... ..	0 6 0	0 6 0	0 10 1	0 7 3	0 7 3	0 8 0	0 7 0	0 6 0
Rakkar ... ..								
Banjar ... ..	0 1 6	0 1 6	...	0 0 3	0 0 3	...	...	...

The result is an assessment amounting to 73 per cent. of the half assets demand, which is here more closely approached than in many circles, owing largely to the lower rent rate on which the half assets estimate is founded.

The enhancement taken is 32 per cent., which is rather heavy with regard to the percentage of increase in cultivation, and in distributing the demand it was necessary to take what are undoubtedly severe enhancements in individual villages. The assessment is, however, by no means high, and ought to be easily paid; it was fairly well received, though a considerable number of villages lodged objections. The number of such applications was 22, all of them being unsuccessful; there were 6 appeals, which are pending.

General remarks regarding the new assessments.

67. The following figures relate to the whole district:—

	Rs.
Half-assets estimate ... ..	13,36,730
One-sixth gross produce ... ..	10,68,703
Assessment proposed ... ..	9,04,000
Do. sanctioned ... ..	9,39,926
Do. by sanctioned rates ... ..	9,09,620
Do. finally fixed ... ..	9,18,987

The last item includes the proposed assessment of Government leased lands, amounting to Rs. 2,523 in all.

The final demand is thus 69 per cent. of the estimated half-assets, 14½ per cent. of the gross produce, 98 per cent. of the sanctioned demand, and 101 per cent. of the demand by sanctioned revenue rates on the finally corrected areas.

My failure to distribute the full amount to which my proposed assessments were raised by the orders on the Assessment Reports calls for some comment, though I have not exceeded the limit allowed by the Assessment Instructions; one obvious reason is that in many cases the cultivated area proves to be less than was supposed when the reports were submitted, but in any case I should have found it difficult to assess the whole amount required. The reasons for raising the assessment I proposed have never been clearly stated, but I believe them to be, firstly, the disparity between the demand proposed and the half-assets estimate, and, secondly, the assumed abnormal lowness of the existing assessments. I have already said that I do not consider the half-assets estimates too high, but in this connection the high rate of rent on which, except in Tallagang, they are based, is a point not to be lost sight of; the great bulk of the land is held by the owners themselves, and to them it does not make any difference (or only a potential difference) whether their non-cultivating neighbours take half produce or one-third; in these circumstances it seems right to consider not only the half-assets standard, but also the proportion of the gross produce which the assessment represents. I have therefore noted in the paragraphs on assessment the estimated value of one-sixth gross produce, though that standard is no longer prescribed. For the rest it is well known that our assessments do not in fact approach half-assets and a district like Jhelum is the last in which they could be worked up to in practice.

The grounds for assuming the assessments to be very low (not considered by themselves, but as compared with our assessments generally), also appear to be somewhat indefinite; the all-round *bārānī* rates in the other districts of this division are as follows:—

Rāwalpindi.	Siālkot.	Gujránwāla.	Gujrāt.	Shahpur.
Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.
Rāwalpindi* 1 1 8	Siālkot ... 1 2 11	Gujránwāla 0 10 7	Gujrāt ... 0 14 7	Shahpur ... 0 6 8
Attock* 0 12 8	Daska ... 0 13 1	Hāfizabad 0 12 9	Phālia ... 0 8 9	Bhera ... 0 8 1
Gujar Khan* 1 4 7	Pasrūr ... 1 2 7	Wazīrabad 0 8 10	Khāriān ... 0 13 1	Khushāb
Kahūta* ... 1 4 5	Raya ... 1 7 8			Plain ... 0 9 5
Fattehjang* 0 12 0	Zafarwāl ... 1 6 7			Do. Hills 1 3 3
Pindigheb* ... 0 7 5				

\* NOTE.—Rāwalpindi rates raised 20 per cent. all-round, as the settlement is an old one, though it is not probable that the rates will be enhanced to this extent.



The corresponding rates for this district by the *new* assessments are as follows :—

Jhelum.	Pind Dádan Khan.	Chakwál.	Tallagang.
River Bank ... Rs. a. p. 1 3 2	Hills ... Rs. a. p. 1 3 4	Lundi Patti ... Rs. a. p. 0 15 5	Tallagang ... Rs. a. p. 0 7 11
Maidán ... 1 3 9	Phaphra ... 1 1 3	Dhanni ... 0 12 11	
Khuddar ... 0 14 6	Thal ... 0 9 8		
Pabbi ... 1 1 11	River Bank ... 0 13 1		

It will be said that a comparison of this kind has little value, and it must be admitted that it has not much ; but I know no better means of comparing the general pitch of the assessments here with those in neighbouring districts : considering the character of the owners here, the great uncertainty of the cropping, and the poor quality of much of the land, the figures, taking them for what they are worth, seem to point to no unusual leniency of assessment.

Again, the increase in cultivation may almost be called insignificant ; it is only 13 per cent. and the new land is greatly inferior to the old ; the enhancement due on this account is probably over-stated at 10 per cent. and the rest of the increase depends on the rise in prices for its justification. This is, of course, a sound reason for enhancement, but it has to be taken with many qualifications ; the zamíndár is a person who is perpetually selling in a cheap market and buying in a dear one, and a rise in prices is of value to him only in proportion to his surplus produce, which varies inversely with the highness of the rates prevailing. The increase in cultivation together with the rise in prices no doubt appear to us sufficient to justify the enhancement of 26 per cent. taken, though not I think more than this ; but we have, if possible, to satisfy the zamíndár also, and I cannot say that the argument as to prices carries conviction to his mind. Hence the increase in his *jama* appears to him severe, and in many cases it cannot be denied that it is so ; instances of what I mean are to be found in almost all circles, but are most numerous in Chakwál, and especially in the Dhanni, where with a very trifling extension of cultivation the revenue has been raised over 30 per cent. and where the villages are very numerous, which, with an increase of cultivation less than 10 per cent., or even a small decrease, have had their assessments enhanced by from 25 to 40 per cent. ; it may be gathered from the opinion recorded by him at last settlement, that such enhancements as have now been taken would not have commended themselves to an officer of Colonel Wace's authority.

This leads to another point, that the enhancements now taken far exceed the expectations of the people founded on their experience of former settlements ; the first regular settlement gave them a small reduction ; at the second, with an increase of 41 per cent. in cultivation, and a rise in prices not less than that which has taken place since, the revenue was raised only 18 per cent., and even this was more than Major Wace thought right, "cultivation having increased more rapidly than can safely be followed immediately by our cash assessment ;" (the statement here quoted is no doubt one reason why the increase is larger now ; we are taking part of the increase due at last settlement ; but I am stating the case as it would present itself to the landowners, that they have been treated at this settlement with much greater severity than at any that preceded it).

It may here be remarked that at previous settlements there has been the hope of further extension of cultivation to lighten the assessments ; there is now little expectation of further expansion, and on the other hand a certain deterioration may be looked for in the Pind Dádan Khan Plains, owing to the approaching completion of the Jhelum Canal, which can hardly fail to have some effect on the *satláb* cultivation below its head, and is likely to draw away tenants, at any rate from the Thal Circle, to an undesirable extent ; I do not, however,

think that much harm will be done, and at any rate there is no need to take account of possible injury of this kind, until it is seen whether it actually occurs.

To sum up my view of the matter, I recognise that the new assessments considered by themselves are by no means high, and that if Government was accustomed to exact all that is in theory due to it, much more might be taken; but Government is not accustomed to do this: compared with the ordinary run of assessments the new demand is, all things considered, decidedly full in almost every circle, and the enhancements taken are in many cases severe. It may be added that an addition of Rs. 2-4-0 per cent. has been made to the cesses due, apart from the rise in the revenue demand on which they are calculated; land revenue is the rent due to the State as landlord, and cesses are local taxes for services locally rendered, but this is not a distinction appreciated by the zamíndár, who only looks at the total which he has to pay.

I say nothing about the very severe losses due to the recent scarcity: that might be an argument for deferring the increase of revenue, but not for foregoing it altogether.

68. It was these views that led me to ask in my No. 61, dated 23rd January 1901, for a reconsideration of the orders on the Chakwál Assessment Report, before the new assessments were announced; the Financial Commissioner, however, in Junior Secretary's No. 2962, dated 13th May, agreed with the Settlement Commissioner that there were no sufficient grounds for asking Government to reconsider their orders; in the course of the correspondence the Settlement Commissioner based his opinion that the Dhanni assessments are moderate largely on a comparison with those of the Gujar Khan Tahsil of the Ráwalpindi District; this comparison is, I venture to think, altogether mistaken; Gujar Khan is a submontane tract, with a better rainfall than the Dhanni; its land so far as I have seen it is far better; and the steady industrious agriculturists who own most of it are as different as possible from the reckless and not too industrious Dhanni zamíndárs: Gujar Khan should be compared rather with the Jhelum Pabbi, to which it is, I think, superior.\*

69. The new assessments were announced in the Pind Dádan Khan Tahsil in May 1899, to take effect from the following kharíf. Before the *jamas* could be got out in the other three tahsils, the district had become involved in the severe scarcity and fodder famine which has been so frequently referred to. I wished nevertheless to announce the assessments, thinking that notwithstanding the character of the seasons, the people would like to know what they had to expect: and that the announcement of the new demand, coupled with the statement that suitable remissions would be deducted from it until better times returned, would be quite as acceptable to them as the postponement of the announcement altogether: from what they have told me since, I believe that this opinion was well founded: it was not, however, accepted by the superior authorities, who were all agreed that it would be impolitic to announce considerable enhancements at a time of severe stress: orders were passed in Punjab Government No. 60, dated 27th March 1900, to the effect that the announcements must be postponed, the old revenue being meanwhile redistributed over holdings according to the new areas, villages where the new *jama* would be less than the old being given the benefit of the reduction until the announcement of the new demand by periodical remissions: the question when the announcements should be made was necessarily reserved for future consideration. At the same time it was ordered that in the Pind Dádan Khan Tahsil the realisation of the new *jamas* announced in the previous year should be postponed until further orders, the new *bachh* being rateably reduced to bring out for each estate the demand of the expired settlement. On receipt of these instructions I went round the tahsils, disposing of the files relating to the

\* These remarks will not, I hope, be misunderstood: I do not want to emphasize the fact that my views as to the assessment to be taken differed from those of higher authorities, a circumstance in itself of very little importance: moreover the amount by which the assessments actually announced exceed those proposed by me is too small to affect their working, being less than 2 per cent. In these two paragraphs my object is to show that there was justification for the failure to assess the full amount required by the orders of Government; and to point out that the district is not perhaps so leniently assessed as seems to be generally supposed.

method of *báchh*, and explaining the 'concession sanctioned by Government in their favour, for which they were grateful, though somewhat disappointed at not learning what their new *jamas* were to be: the new *báchh* of the old assessments was then carried out and announced.

The matter was again referred early this year, when the district had harvested a good kharif, and an excellent rabi was assured: and in Punjab Government No. 114, dated 8th May 1901, the immediate announcement of the new assessments was sanctioned, and it was added that they should be collected with effect from the kharif of 1901, provided that the new *jama* shall not be collected in any village until the Settlement Officer has satisfied himself that this can safely be done. The new *jamas* were accordingly announced during the following fortnight, with effect from Kharif 1901, and the revised *báchh* lists have since been prepared and announced.

As regards the introduction of the new assessments on the next harvest, I think it will be best to introduce them everywhere, and give relief by remissions where necessary: but this is a matter for future consideration.

70. The statement below compares the sanctioned revenue rates with the average of the rates actually put on the different classes of land in the *báchh* :—

Tahsil.	Assessment Circle.	IRRIGATED.		SAILAB.		HAIL AND BARANI I.		MAIRA AND RAKKAR.	
		Revenue.	Báchh.	Revenue.	Báchh.	Revenue.	Báchh.	Revenue.	Báchh.
		Rates per acre.		Rates per acre.		Rates per acre.		Rates per acre.	
		Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.
Jhelum.	River Bank ... ..	4 0 0	2 13 9	1 8 0	1 9 10	1 12 0	1 10 10	1 6 6	1 6 3
	Maidán ... ..	3 8 0	2 8 4	1 4 0	1 8 6	1 14 0	1 9 0	1 2 6	1 2 7
	Khuddar ... ..	5 0 0	3 9 11	...	...	1 10 0	1 4 7	0 13 0	0 12 1
	Pabbi ... ..	4 0 0	3 13 1	...	...	2 0 0	1 9 8	1 0 0	0 14 8
Pind Dádán Khan.	Hills ... ..	5 0 0	2 7 6	...	...	1 8 0	1 9 5	0 11 0	0 15 0
	Phaphra ... ..	Cháhi 2 3 0 2 4 1		...	...	1 5 0	1 7 9	0 11 0	1 2 1
		Abi 2 6 0 2 5 4		...	...	...	...	...	...
	Thal ... ..	1 5 0	1 5 11	1 12 0	1 6 0	0 13 6	0 11 1	0 6 0	0 9 8
Obak-wál.	River Bank ... ..	2 6 0	2 7 4	1 12 0	1 8 0	1 0 0	1 4 5	0 12 0	0 15 9
	Lundi Patti ... ..	5 0 0	4 9 5	...	...	1 9 0	1 2 9	0 14 0	0 14 8
	Dhanni ... ..	5 0 0	5 2 5	...	...	1 6 0	1 0 6	0 11 6	0 11 10
Tallagang.	Tallagang ... ..	4 4 0	4 2 0	...	...	0 14 0	0 10 2	0 7 3	0 6 11

The *báchh* rates are arrived at by adding up the rates on the particular class of land, and dividing the total by the number of estates in which that class

occurs. Though not accurate, this gives a fairly correct idea of the rates put on each of the larger classes in the *báchh*, but is very misleading in the case of the irrigated land, which in many circles occurs to an important extent in perhaps one or two villages, but in small quantities in a large number, many of them having only an acre or two of well land assessed low because the wells are useful to all, or for other reasons. For *cháhi*, therefore, the actual assessment has been divided by the total *cháhi* area.

The *báchh* rates thus arrived at point to the revenue rates on *cháhi* being rather higher than they should be, and to the difference between superior and ordinary *báráni* having been to some extent over-estimated.

## SPECIAL MATTERS RELATING TO THE ASSESSMENT.

71. The rules for the assessment of land irrigated from the Pind Dádan Khan Canal were sanctioned in Punjab Government No. 63, dated 17th July 1900, the occupiers' rates, under the sanction of the Government of India, taking effect from 1st April 1901 (Public Works Department, Irrigation Branch, Notification No. 01689, dated 8th October 1900): the rules were based on those sanctioned for the Corbynwáh lower down the river in the Shahpur District, which is on the same side of the river, and irrigates similar sour land. They are as follows:—

I.—*Occupier's rate*.—(1). All crops irrigated by the Pind Dádan Khan Canal shall pay an occupier's rate of Re. 1-8-0 per acre for flow irrigation and 12 annas per acre for lift irrigation, these rates to be charged on matured crops only.

(2). Uncultivated land irrigated by the Pind Dádan Khan Canal shall pay an occupier's rate of 2 annas per acre to be charged only on land actually producing grass.

II.—*Water-advantage rate*.—All land not assessed at settlement as cultivated, shall, when it bears a crop with the aid of canal irrigation, pay annually a water-advantage rate of 8 annas per acre on matured crops.

NOTE.—No water-advantage rate shall be charged on uncultivated land or on land assessed at settlement as cultivated.

III.—The rates leviable under rules I and II shall be charged on lands benefited by irrigation from the canal whether or no the cultivator applied for the water and whether or no the irrigation was voluntary.

IV.—The assessing officer shall have discretionary power to remit, in whole or part, the occupier's rate and water-advantage rate on lands which have taken water, but on which the crops or grass have failed or been very poor.

V.—The assessing officer shall also have discretionary power to remit not more than half the occupier's rate on land assessed at *cháhi* or *sailáb* rates.

The main point in which these rules differ from those in force on the Corbynwah is that the water-advantage rate is here payable only on land not assessed as cultivated at settlement, the reasons being (1) that the water-rate now sanctioned is in itself double that which the irrigators have been in the habit of paying, and (2) that the cultivated land is already assessed to fixed land revenue at rates varying from 9 annas to Re. 1-6-0 per acre, and in most cases over 14 annas, which is equivalent to the sum of the fixed land revenue and water-advantage rates on the Corbynwah; the rules, which are liable to revision if the circumstances of the canal alter or the rates are found to be too low,\*

\* Paragraph 1 of letter No. 0205, dated 5th June 1900, from Chief Engineer, Irrigation Works, to Revenue Secretary to Government, Punjab.

do not call for comment here further than to note the reasons for the assessment of involuntary irrigation provided for in rule III; to quote from paragraph 109 of Mr. Wilson's Shahpur Report, "it is impossible, at all events where the canal passes through low ground, to direct the course of the water so certainly as it is in the case of a large canal passing over comparatively high land. It would be impossible to get the.....irrigators.....each to send in a separate application for water before the irrigating season, and it would be easy for any cultivator to make a breach in the banks, take water for his fields, and then refuse to pay canal rates on the ground that he had not applied for water. The only possible way of assessing water-rates on these canals is to charge all land that has actually been irrigated, and has benefited by the irrigation, whether the cultivator applied for the water or not, and without regard to the question whether or not the irrigation was voluntary. At the same time it is incumbent on us to improve our canals, so that there may be as little involuntary irrigation as possible."

The rules allow a large discretion to the assessing officer (the assessment is in the hands of the Irrigation Department), and it is to be desired that this discretion should be liberally exercised, especially at the outset; for canal irrigation is practically a new thing in this tract, and the rates are high compared with any that have been taken hitherto.

72. The number of water mills now working, together with the amount to which they have been assessed, is 181 with a total assessment of Rs. 1,361 or an average of Rs. 7-8-4 per mill.

Assessment of water mills.

Though they have been assessed separately, it has been held in Revenue Secretary to Punjab Government's No. 68, dated 4th April 1900, that the amount payable on the mills is part of the ordinary land revenue and will be charged with the ordinary cesses; as the assessments in the Pind Dádan Khan Tahsil had been framed under the impression that no cesses would be payable, I asked for permission to revise them, and in Punjab Government No. 138, dated 3rd June 1901, a reduction of Rs. 133 was sanctioned, the result being the assessment shown above.

The mill assessments are on the whole little more than one-fourth of the half net profits, but they have nevertheless aroused some dissatisfaction, and a few mills have been abandoned for the time being; in one way and another they have given a good deal of trouble; and I think it would have been better to consider the mill profits as an assessable asset in fixing the village *jimas*, and to leave the people to put on them in the *báchh* whatever they thought proper; it would have been easy to see in passing orders on the *báchh* files that a reasonable assessment was placed on them. It is far from easy to assess mills fairly, and it would have been useful to know what the people themselves considered that they should pay.

The rules for the assessment of mills newly constructed during the currency of the settlement, and other connected matters, form the last part of the di-alluvion rules given in Appendix C. It will be observed that they apply only to mills situated on land not the property of Government: the assessment of mills in *rakhs* is in the hands of the officers responsible for the management of the *rakhs*.

73. There is at present only one quarry in the district which is privately owned and worked, which is situated in the small village of Farásh near Tarakki. It was started about 16 years ago, and in spite of a clear provision in the records of the village that any quarry which might be discovered would be considered the property of Government as required by law, it was no one's business to interfere, and the zamíndárs worked the quarry without payment, to their great advantage, until the new assessment came under consideration, and the orders of Government were sought regarding the treatment of this asset. In Revenue Secretary's No. 768, dated 21st June 1900,\* it was ordered that the zamíndárs should retain possession of

Assessment of quarries.

\* Punjab Government Proceedings (Revenue-General), for June 1900, Nos. 23-29, and for May 1901, Nos. 1-3.

the quarry, on payment of Rs. 75 per annum as royalty, and subject to the condition that Government is at liberty to take the quarries under direct management at any time it pleases. The payment of Rs. 75 is treated as rent, not land revenue, and an application by the Deputy Commissioner for sanction to the levy by the lambardár of the usual 5 per cent. fees thereon has been disallowed by the Commissioner in his No. 1134, dated 28th March 1901.

It is presumed that any other cases of the kind which may occur will be dealt with on the same lines, but it will of course be necessary to report each such case for orders.

74. The damage to crops caused by roadside trees exhausting the moisture in the ground near them (and to some extent perhaps by their shade, as popularly supposed), is in a country of small and often insufficient rainfall very marked; and it was in this district, on the representations of Major Wace at last settlement, that remissions of land revenue on this account were first granted, though, owing probably to his departure from the district, they were actually allowed only in a few estates. At the present settlement the matter again came under discussion, the ultimate result being the rules sanctioned in Punjab Government No. 30, dated 16th February 1901, in which the principle adopted is that these remissions should be given in the internal distribution of the village assessment over holdings, the total amount of the remissions required being taken into consideration where necessary in fixing the village *jamás*: these orders have been carried out in all Tahsils except Pind Dádan Khan, where the new assessments had been announced and distributed before the matter was settled, and the remissions due in that Tahsil being in no case large, it was not thought necessary to make a fresh *báchh* in order to carry them out. Where remissions were made, in the other three Tahsils, they were made subject to the following restrictions; (1) irrigated land should ordinarily get no remission, as the crops on such land are not much injured by roadside trees; (2) where the trees are stunted, as in the hills, the remission to extend to 5 *karams* from the trees, instead of 10 *karams*; (3) no remissions of less than one *kandl* to be given in any one holding, smaller areas being neglected.

75. The increments due to the falling in of protective *pattas* granted for wells constructed since settlement are shown below by five-yearly periods.

Period.												Amount.
												Rs.
1902—1905	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	845
1906—1910	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2,335
1911—1915	...	..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,143
1916—1920	...	...	...	...	...	...	..	...	...	...	...	528
Total											..	4,851

Of the whole amount of Rs. 4,851, the Pind Dádan Khan River Bank Circle with 115 new wells takes Rs. 1,690; and the Dhanni with 227 wells Rs. 1,367. The ordinary *pakka* well of this district, though the upper part is lined with masonry, is of somewhat rough construction, but it is of a permanent character, and costs a considerable amount to make, differing altogether from what is understood by a *kacha* well. I considered that I was justified in giving 20 years' leases for such wells. The total number of wells protected is 830, including *jhallárs*.

A question which arose in connection with the grant of these leases was whether they could be claimed by men who have gone to considerable expense, often exceeding that of a well, in constructing embankments for

the reclamation of land in the ravines ; I came to the conclusion that it was impossible to give them in such cases owing to the difficulty of ascertaining with accuracy the date of the construction of such works, while the amount of the remission due would, in most cases, be very small.

76. In paragraph 101 of the Pind Dádan Khan Assessment Report I made some remarks as to the difficulty of properly assessing estates in which a large proportion of the land has been alienated, and as to the advantages to be gained by permitting the higher assessment of land transferred ; the Settlement Commissioner in paragraph 15 of his review remarked that in practice estates that are hopelessly involved are usually placed under a full assessment, while in those of which a part of the owners still remain solvent the distribution of the demand over holdings is sometimes so arranged as to throw the heavier burden on the money-lenders' holdings, on the ground that such landlords as a rule get more profit out of the land than the ordinary hereditary zamíndár, and also generally take care to select the best land for purchase or mortgage ; such action appeared to him to be justified. The Lieutenant-Governor was only able to say that he agreed with the Settlement Commissioner's remarks ; and that, considering the moderation of the assessment, he saw no reason why I should not go above my rates to the extent of adding to the assessment the amount of Rs. 6,343 which the Financial Commissioner thought would be obtained from a differential assessment : I found, however, that it was practically impossible to distribute this amount in the internal *báchh* over land alienated, and the matter was again referred for orders : in the final orders on the subject\* the Lieutenant-Governor observed that the correspondence showed the difficulty of giving effect to the previous orders without a formal acceptance of the principle of class differentiation, which he was not prepared, without much fuller consideration, to sanction : he directed, therefore, that in his attempt to carry out the former instructions, the Settlement Officer must not commit himself to any differentiation of the assessment upon holdings within the same village in the possession of alienees and of old agriculturists ; and that if he was unable without resort to such differentiation to impose the extra Rs. 6,343, he must not impose it at all. I did not find it possible to take the extra sum on these conditions : in two or three estates I found that a particular *chak* or block of superior land had all or almost all been transferred, and put a special rate on it, but the justification for doing so was to be found in the quality of the land as much as in the fact of its transfer : land held by alienees is usually scattered all over the estate, and I do not think that it can even be said that it is of generally superior quality.

## CHAPTER V.—REVISION OF THE RECORD.

77. In anticipation of the expiration in the autumn of 1899 of the second regular settlement, the district was placed under re-assessment by Punjab Government Notification No. 221, dated 3rd December 1895, and in Notification No. 222 of the same date, the Lieutenant-Governor directed under Section 32 of the Punjab Land Revenue Act the special revision of the records of rights of the estates included in the district. Lála Bhawáni Dás, having been selected for the post of Extra Assistant Settlement Officer, had already joined the district as Revenue Assistant in May 1895, and was employed chiefly during the hot weather of that year in supervising the preparation of detailed *jamabandís* for the whole district, besides assisting in the work connected with the Forecast Report. I was posted to the district as Assistant Commissioner on the 3rd October, and was appointed Settlement Officer in December 1895. We have both remained attached to the settlement throughout, Lála Bhawáni Dás officiating for me during my absence on leave in 1896 and 1899, for about six months in all ; on the several occasions when he has taken leave, the work has been carried on without the appointment of a substitute.

\* Punjab Government No. 31, dated 7th February 1899 (Proceedings Revenue for February 1899, Nos. 9 to 14).

78. A great mistake was made in not appointing Settlement Tahsildárs from the first : of the four Tahsildárs in the district two had no settlement experience, and the other two were not settlement men ; all of them had also of course their ordinary work to look after, and in only one tahsil can that work be called light. About a year after the settlement had begun, two Settlement Tahsildárs arrived, and were posted to Pind Dádan Khan and Tallagang ; the latter a light tahsil, but the District Tahsildar was incapable of looking after the work properly. This still left the two important tahsils of Jhelum and Chakwál without sufficient supervision : on a transfer of office at Tallagang, I was able to send the Settlement Tahsildar there to Chakwál about April 1897. I did not get a Settlement Tahsildar for Jhelum until July 1898, an application made nearly two years previously having been rejected by the Financial Commissioner ; the idea was, I believe, that the two Settlement Tahsildárs first sanctioned should move about from tahsil to tahsil, wherever they might be required, a quite impracticable arrangement.

The Settlement Tahsildar is a most important part of the establishment ; I have no hesitation in saying that had four of these officers been appointed at the very outset, every one of the four would have saved his pay to Government over and over again, and the work would have been better done. The Settlement Tahsildar of Pind Dádan Khan left in July 1900 before the records of his tahsil had been filed at sadr : this also was a mistake ; a Settlement Tahsildar ought not to leave until the work for which he is responsible is in all respects complete.

The rest of the establishment was on a liberal scale, consisting at its highest of 14 Deputy Superintendents (now Settlement Naib Tahsildárs), 16 office kánúngos, 40 field kánúngos, and about 91 amíns (now settlement patwáris) ; the grant for temporary establishment, from which the last named are paid, being on the average nearly Rs. 16,000 per annum, of which about Rs. 11,000 was available for field establishment ; the settlement suffered from a too rapid flow of promotion, whereby it lost all too soon many of its best men ; and a considerable number of subordinates were also sent away at some inconvenience to other settlements where they were urgently required, beginning with Agror in 1893. Apart from calls from other settlements, the establishment began to be reduced in May 1899, 5 Deputy Superintendents and 11 kánúngos having been dispensed with by the beginning of 1900 : it would have been much wiser to retain a larger establishment to the end ; it was subsequently found necessary to appoint some extra Deputy Superintendents and extra kánúngos to replace some of the men who had gone.

Where there was a Settlement Tahsildar, the District Tahsildar was usually given the entire charge of a small circle for settlement work ; there was sometimes a little friction, but generally the two officers worked well together. Naib Tahsildárs were given circles as Deputy Superintendents ; and the sadr kánúngo was similarly employed from time to time, but usually worked at the sadr, principally as the officer in charge of the check office.

The general quality of the settlement establishment was probably neither above nor below the average. There were several hard bargains amongst the Deputy Superintendents, and a number amongst the kánúngos ; but that is probably always the case.

### THE SURVEY.

79. One of the first points for decision was to what extent remeasurements were necessary and what should be the scale of the new maps : the standard measure of length is the *karam*, or double pace of 66 inches, and the measures of area are as follows :—

9 square karams	...	= 1 marla	= 1 pole.
20 marlas	...	= 1 kanál	= $\frac{1}{2}$ rood.
8 kanáls	...	= 1 ghumáo	= 1 acre.

The people themselves commonly, but by no means invariably, reckon in *bighas*, the *bigha* being equal to 4 *kanáls* or half an acre.



The old maps were on the scale of 60 *karams* to the inch; and that adopted for the new maps was 40 *karams* to the inch, or 24 inches to the mile, as is now usual: in one or two instances the 40-*karam* scale was not sufficiently large to show correctly intricate pieces of irrigation, and these were mapped on the scale of 20 *karams* to the inch: otherwise the 40-*karam* scale was adhered to throughout: I think this was a mistake, and that for a great number of estates in Tallagang, where the fields are very large, and the land of no great value, half this scale would have been sufficient. There are advantages in uniformity, but the saving in material and storage room would have been considerable.

80. In the first month of the settlement the Director of Land Records The question of remeasurements: common base line. marched round the district with me, and afterwards submitted a note as to the necessity of entirely new measurements: he was in favour of remeasurements, wherever they could be carried out wholly or partly on the square system; as regards the villages in which square laying was impossible, and where, therefore, there was no reason to suppose that the new survey would be more correct than the old, he remarked that it would take nearly as long to find out whether they were correctly measured before as to remeasure them afresh; that in most cases there would be a considerable amount of change, due to partitions, the breaking up of new land and the like, altogether apart from the correctness or incorrectness of the old maps; and that the old maps were on a different scale from that now employed: in doubtful cases he would let the Settlement Officer use his discretion to remeasure or not, but unless the number and area of the estates in which a new survey was not required proved to be considerable, he did not think that it would be worth while to omit them from the remeasurements. These conclusions, which were undoubtedly correct, were approved by the Financial Commissioner,\* and I was ordered to take action accordingly.

In the event it was found possible to use the square system to a far larger extent than had been anticipated, and as in my experience the work done on that system by the patwáris is far more accurate than that which they turn out by the plane table, unassisted by a revenue survey, I have employed it wherever I could: it is quite a mistake to suppose that square laying can be done with sufficient accuracy only on a nearly level plain, and it has been done here with good results in country of a very different nature. Plane-table measurements have been made in only 82 out of 983 estates, and in 71 of these in only part of the area. Square laying in rough country takes much time, and plane-tabling would have been far quicker, but the results would have been less reliable.

The experiment of bringing the old maps up to date was tried in two or three villages where they were fairly correct, but it proved a very troublesome process, taking almost as long as remeasurements, and was not continued: the whole district has therefore been resurveyed, with the exception of the larger hill rakhs.

Another question considered was how far the plan adopted by Mr. Dane in Pesháwar of measuring a large tract on one base line, was suitable here: I was in favour of the system, of which I had seen something under Mr. Dane, and in November 1895 applied for the services of a trained Surveyor with theodolite to lay out base lines and perpendiculars; but sanction was not received until the beginning of the following April, when I had done almost all that I wanted to do in this respect; I thought of using the sanction to carry out a little traverse work in the roughest parts of the district, but difficulties arose and the project was abandoned. Common base lines were laid out by the settlement staff for the following tracts:—(1) Jhelum plains and river bank, (2) Pind Dádan Khan plains (2 lines); (3) Central and Western Salt Range (2 lines); (4) most of Tahsil Chakwál; (5) nearly the whole of Tallagang, and for several minor blocks of villages.

The system has undoubted advantages, but it causes a vast amount of trouble and loss of time: and if it is carried too far, mistakes are so trouble-

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\* Senior Secretary's No. 1403, dated 11th March 1896, to Commissioner, Bawalpindi.

some to put right that there is some risk of fudging when they occur: on the whole I think it is beneficial, but it is a mistake to make the lines too long; one for each kánúngo's circle will generally be suitable.

81. The progress of the survey work is shown in the following statement :—

YEAR.	Villages of which maps were completed.	Number of squares laid out.	FIELD MAPS MADE AFTER COMPLETE REMEASUREMENT.	
			Fields.	Acres.
1895-96 ... ..	187	14,235	125,147	153,402
1896-97 ... ..	247	38,253	478,804	714,059
1897-98 ... ..	305	35,033	525,733	1,006,067
1898-99 ... ..	258	22,261	435,750	722,494
1899-1900 ... ..	12	...	...	...
Total ...	1,009	109,782	1,565,434	2,596,022

The first year, when there were no Settlement Tahsildars, the ordinary Tahsildars knew little or nothing of the work, and the subordinate establishment was coming in by dribblets, was chiefly taken up with preliminaries, the organisation and training of the staff, the laying out of base lines and the like: in addition 13 per cent. of the squares were laid, 6 per cent. of the area was re-measured, and a large number of *khataunís* were written up and attested: the year was a bad one agriculturally, and the work was somewhat hindered on this account, but the next year, when the staff was first in full working order, was in this respect far worse; in several parts of the district it became impossible to continue survey work, and the patwáris had to be transferred to the riverain villages or wherever it was possible to employ them: some time was lost in making these arrangements, apart from the obvious hindrance due to stopping work, where it is in full swing, for such a period that what has been done first is stale by the time that the last is taken in hand; even where work continued, it was done at a disadvantage. The outturn in the second year was on this account less than it would otherwise have been. The third year fortunately was one of good harvests, and during it a great part of the square laying and 40 per cent. of the field measurements were got through, including those of the Pind Dádan Khan Thal, which was one of the tracts that had suffered most in the previous year. Having got a good harvest to work on in the Thal, it was necessary to make the most of it, as there was no knowing when another would occur, so the survey in this circle was rushed through with all possible expedition: the record work that ought to be done as measurements progress was unavoidably left in a rather rough and incomplete state, and this caused much trouble before the record of rights was finished; but as things turned out it was very fortunate that the measurements were completed when they were, for it would not have been possible to take them up again in this tract until the cold weather of 1900-01.

The next year, 1898-99, saw the completion of measurements in all tahsils, Pind Dádan Khan first in October 1898, and Jhelum last in August 1899: this year was nearly as bad for the zamíndárs as 1896-97, and the work suffered to some extent; but it was good in comparison with 1899-1900, the worst year on record, so we were fortunate in completing the survey before that year came.

The cost of the survey was as follows :—

							<i>Per square mile.</i>		
							Rs.	a.	p.
1895-96	...	...	...	...	...	...	62	1	2
1896-97	...	...	...	...	...	...	16	13	2
1897-98	...	...	...	...	...	...	11	8	9
1898-99	...	...	...	...	...	...	13	5	9
Total							...	16	8 1

(The cost has been calculated as directed in the notes on annual Statement No. XXXIII B).

82. I believe that the mapping has been done with very fair accuracy,\* though in a district like Jhelum the work turned out by the patwáris with their rough instruments, unaided by any professional survey, cannot be expected to be faultless; at any rate for all revenue purposes the mapping may be taken to be correct; whether the results are accurate enough to be used by the Survey of India Department in bringing their maps up to date remains to be seen.

There has never been a revenue survey in this district, and by way of check on the results of our measurements all that we could do was to reduce our 24-inch maps to the scale of one mile to the inch, and compare the small scale maps thus produced with the maps of the Topographical Survey of 1857—59. On the whole the two agree very fairly well, the difference being nowhere greater than the difference between some of the adjoining sheets of the survey maps themselves, which is I suppose due to the expansion and contraction of the paper on which they are printed when passing through the press.

It is certainly not right that in a rough country like Jhelum there should be no professional survey data available for checking the patwáris' survey as it proceeds: it is to be hoped that in this respect the approaching settlement of the Ráwalpindi District will be more fortunate: there too there has, I believe, been no revenue survey hitherto.

83. The large scale field maps were on completion reduced to one-sixth scale, or four inches to the mile, the work being done in the tabsils: a good deal of it was not well done in the first instance, and had to be done afresh. From the 4-inch maps a further reduction was made at the sadr to the scale of one inch to the mile, for comparison with the survey maps as noticed above; besides reductions to still smaller scales in order to provide convenient maps for district use. The maps on the scale of 2 miles to the inch, showing village names and boundaries, and other details, are being printed.

A copy of the 4-inch *khákas* or reduced maps, prepared for the Survey Office, is being retained in the district, in addition to the copies kept by the patwáris for the villages of their respective circles.

#### THE RECORD OF RIGHTS.

84. The procedure in preparing the record of rights was that prescribed in the Punjab Land Revenue Act and the rules thereunder. Before the survey of a village was taken in hand, correct *khataunís* were drawn up from the most recent annual record, corrected to date by careful local attestation: they showed the names of all owners and tenants, and the shares of each in every holding, and were arranged in accordance with the pedigree table of the owners which was attested and brought up to date at the same time. The field measurements were then begun, and as each field was surveyed, its area, soil and means of irrigation were entered on the *khatauni* of the holding to which it belonged, a copy of the entries being made at the same time in the duplicate *khataunís* prepared for the use of each owner and tenant. As measurements progressed the *khataunís* were checked from time to time by the supervising staff; and on completion of the

\* It should be noted, however, that in some parts of the district, notably the Thal and the rougher parts of Tallagang, a map accurate when prepared soon becomes out of date, owing to the shifting of field boundaries.

survey and of the connected papers, they were again finally attested at the village in the presence of those interested, first by the kánúngo, then by the Deputy Superintendent, and lastly by the Tahsildar, all objections to the entries being recorded and disposed of.

The progress of the work is shown below :—

	Jhelum.	Pind Dádan Khan.	Chakwál.	Tallagang.
Field work completed ... ..	August 1899 ...	October 1898...	March 1899 ...	March 1899.
Measurement file completed and standing record prepared ... ..	March 1901 ...	July 1900 ...	December 1900	September 1900.
Final attestations completed ... ..	April 1901 ...	March 1900 ...	September 1900	September 1900.
Báchh completed {	First ... ..	March 1901 ...	April 1900 ..	December 1900
	Second ... ..	June 1901 ...	...	July 1901 ...
Records bound and filed ... ..	August 1901 ...	November 1900	March 1901 ...	August 1901.

85. The papers forming the revised record of rights, or standing record, of each estate, are as follows :—  
Contents of the standing record.

- (1). Preliminary proceeding, showing the authority under which the record was prepared, its contents, and the dates between which it was completed.
- (2). Genealogical tree of the owners.
- (3). The *jamabandi*, showing the owners and tenants in order with the fields owned and occupied by each, the numbers of the fields (old and new), areas and classes of soil, and the amount of revenue, cesses, rent, or *málíkána* payable on each holding.
- (4). List of revenue assignments and pensions.
- (5). Statement of rights in wells.
- (6). Order of Collector fixing the new assessment of the estate, with orders of superior authority, if any.
- (7). Order of Collector distributing the assessment over holdings.
- (8). Statement of customs respecting rights and liabilities in the estate.
- (9). The field map.

To these prescribed documents have been added (a) after the preliminary proceeding, an explanatory note (*yúddásht amurát zarúri*) regarding various points in connection with the record and the methods followed in preparing it; (b) an index showing in which holding every field is to be found; (c) and after the statement of rights in wells, a statement of rights in water-mills: under the orders contained in Punjab Government No. 111, dated 15th June 1892, no list of village cesses has been drawn up under Section 145 of the Land Revenue Act. A note to this effect has been placed on the record of rights.

The yearly totals of transfers, yearly register of areas, and yearly revenue account, formerly included in the standing record, have been omitted under the authority of paragraph 286 of Douie's Manual.

It seems a pity that no alphabetical index is prescribed as an accompaniment of the record of rights, as it is for the *khataunnís*; whether an index of this kind should be attached to the *jamabandís* was a matter which I did not consider until the work was far advanced towards completion: time was then very valuable, and after the Settlement Commissioner had been consulted it was decided that the index was a luxury rather than a necessity, and it was not prepared. It would, however, certainly have proved a great convenience to those who will have occasion to refer to the record.

The mutation orders referred to in paragraph 100 below are not part of the standing record and have been bound in separate volumes for each estate.

Remarks on documents  
included in the record.

86. Some of the papers included in the record of rights call for mark :—

Pedigree table.

(2). *The pedigree table*.—Owners by purchase, without a share in the village common (*málikán qabza*), are shown in all cases under the owner from whom they derived their title. The objections to this arrangement are that it is contrary to rule, and that it involves a good deal of repetition where one man has acquired rights as a *málik qabza* from a number of different owners; the advantage is that mistakes in reckoning up the shares in the common for purposes of partitions, &c., which are very apt to occur if the *qabza maliks* are lumped together, are avoided: the *jamabandi* follows the arrangement of the pedigree table, and shows for each holding, first, the land held by the owners in full proprietary right, with occupancy holdings under them; second, the *málikán qabza* under them; and, thirdly, the total of the above: their rights are then all shown in one place, and are not obscured. Where as is often the case the *qabza málik* pays *málikánu* to the superior owner, which is realised by a give-and-take arrangement in the *báchh*, the convenience of the method followed here is great. This procedure being contrary to rule, the approval to the course adopted, which the Settlement Commissioner at first accorded, was subsequently withdrawn by him: but by that time the work was so far advanced that no change could be made.

The note on the pedigree table relating to the origin, &c., of the village has not been repeated in the new record, a reference to the note in the old record being deemed sufficient, except where changes have occurred since settlement: otherwise the *shajra nusb* is a complete copy of that of last settlement corrected to date, and is not limited to four generations only, as the rules permit.

Jamabandi.

87. *The jamabandi* (3), the most important part of the standing record, is in most cases a copy of the measurement *khataunis*, as finally attested, with corrections due to mutations sanctioned after their completion: in one tahsil, Pind Dádan Khan, the soil entries are those of the measurement file, but changes in cultivating occupancy, up to the time of the preparation of the record, have been taken into account, as well as those in ownership and occupancy right. This gave much trouble; and after the matter had been discussed with the Settlement Commissioner, it was decided to disregard in the other tahsils all changes since measurement, except attested mutations of ownership and occupancy right. In the other three tahsils therefore (a) the ownership and occupancy right entries are those for the year 1899-1900; (b) entries as to tenants-at-will are those of the time of remeasurements; (c) the revenue according to the old demand by new *báchh* is that of 1900-01 (the old demand according to the old *báchh* not being shown at all); and (d) the new demand entered is that of 1901-02, except that changes due to di-alluvion for that year are not yet known and could not therefore be taken into account. There is thus some lack of uniformity in the various parts of the record, but to this there is no real objection.

The rule now in force that measurement *jamabandís* to form part of the standing record are to be prepared as soon as possible after the completion of measurements, had not been issued when the work was done here: we prepared *jamabandís* for the villages completed in 1895-96 and 1896-97, but they were replaced by revised *jamabandís* in the record of rights. In subsequent years I obtained permission to prepare no *jamabandís*, Settlement Commissioner's No. 860, dated 29th July 1898, sanctioning the permanent preservation of the *khataunis* to replace what has been known as the "measurement *jamabandi*," which we did not prepare in most cases. The *khataunis* being a rough field record and constantly amended as the work proceeded, are very unsightly; but such as they are they have been bound and filed; they might, I think, be destroyed after the next revision of the record of rights.

As a chain back to the old records, the former *holding* numbers are shown in red in the same column as the new numbers; there is a separate column for the

old *field* numbers in which according to rule the numbers of the last *jamabandi* should have been shown, but some years before settlement the Deputy Commissioner had incorrectly formed the opinion that there were too many field numbers and had ordered their reduction; his orders were carried out, but in a very unintelligent manner, and with results that were often positively grotesque. dozens of fields in some *Tahsils* being lumped together without rhyme or reason, the entries relating to a single field thus formed sometimes taking up two or three pages in the crop register. It was not much use to refer back to old numbers of this comprehensive character, so in the column for former number has been entered the settlement number as well as that of the last annual record.

Another small departure from the rules has to be noticed here; holdings of tenants-at-will have been entered immediately after the land cultivated by the proprietor himself, and not, as the rules require, after the entries relating to occupancy tenants; the reason is that the owner may in any year make exchanges between the land he holds himself and that which he cultivates through tenants-at-will, while he cannot ordinarily interfere with the land held by occupancy tenants; it is therefore reasonable to place the land falling under the first two heads in juxtaposition, and that held by occupancy tenants after them. The order prescribed in the rules is probably due to the superficial view that occupancy tenants being next in importance to full owners should come next after them.

88. Correct soil entries are no unimportant part of the record; in a district like Jhelum where the variation of quality from field to field is so great, depending more on the situation of each plot than on the character of the soil, it is impossible to take the course adopted in most of the level districts recently settled, and neglect all distinctions between the different kinds of unirrigated land. Correct classification is, however, a matter of very great difficulty, and objections to the soil entries were very numerous, and gave much trouble to dispose of. The *patwári*, as he measured each field, was allowed to enter the class of soil, provided that it was the same as that recorded before; if the former entry did not appear to him correct, he was expected to leave the column blank, and enter the field in a list of changes in soil entries (*fard tabdíl iqsám*) for disposal by his superiors; Deputy Superintendents were instructed to see every field entered on this list, besides of course checking the entries relating to fields not on the list. If I had the work to do again, I would allow neither *patwári* nor *kánúngo* to have anything to do with the question of soil classification, and would make it the business of the Settlement Naib *Tahsildars* to make the entry of soil in each case with their own hand, after seeing the field, writing the entry with such clearness as to render subsequent fraudulent alterations impossible, and appending their signature to each entry in order to leave no doubt as to who was responsible. This would be a great saving of time to the *kánúngos*, as well as to the higher officials, who would have comparatively few objections to dispose of; nor would it in the end add very greatly to the work of the Naib *Tahsildars* themselves; while it would deprive subordinates of some of their power for evil. The satisfactory classification of soils from the first is a matter of such importance that it would even be worth while to slightly increase the number of Settlement Naib *Tahsildars* in order to obtain it; though the services of the few reliable *kánúngos* might also be utilised; but in any case all officials entrusted with the work (including *Tahsildars*) should, to ensure uniformity as far as possible, at the outset classify a few score of fields in a varied country under the eye of the Settlement Officer; it might be considered whether some such procedure as this should not be adopted in the *Ráwalpindi* Settlement, where the conditions will be similar.

The *hail* entries gave most trouble; in the absence of a special desire for a different course on the part of the owners, I should be disposed to class as manured only the land immediately adjoining habitations, and fertilised by the drainage therefrom or by the habits of the people, excluding land whether near to or far from the *abádi* which is manured in a more artificial way; the advantages of the former are due to its situation, and those of the latter to the exertions of the cultivator, and in it all share approximately in proportion

to the area of their holdings. The procedure followed here was not very different from that suggested above, but the class was rather more comprehensive and more was necessarily left to the opinion of inspecting officers. The villages being often built on a rocky eminence, the manured land close to their walls is sometimes sloping and stony; but this can be provided for by classing such land separately.

89. The list of revenue assignments shows them as they stood before the enquiry made regarding them at the present settlement; any changes that may be occasioned by the orders on the registers which have been submitted will be carried out in the next *jamabandi*, a note being made on the list of assignments with the record of rights. Such changes will, however, be very rare.

90. The fifth and sixth papers on the list of documents composing the standing record do not call for special notice; the seventh is the order laying down the method by which the village assessment shall be distributed over holdings, on which the easy working of the settlement largely depends. The statement below shows to what extent the villages adopted differential soil rates for the *báchh*, or distribution of the assessment imposed on the estate over the holdings contained in it; the number of cases in which they did so is considerably larger than before.

DETAIL.	Number of estates.	CULTIVATED AREA OF ESTATES SHOWN IN COLUMN 2.		Average cultivated acreage of each estate.
		Acres.	Per cent. of total.	
Báchh by shares ... ..	49	20,683	2	422
Do. differential soil rates ... ..	725	874,609	85½	1,206
Do. an all-round rate ... ..	215	128,499	12½	598

The commonest method of *báchh* was perhaps to have three rates, one for irrigation, a second for *hail* and *lárání I*, and a third for *maira* and *rakkur*; though separate rates for all four classes of *bárání* are not uncommon; and there was often one rate for all kinds of unirrigated land except *hail*, on the ground that the embankments on which the *bárání I* depends are troublesome and expensive to keep up, which, especially where the ravines are soft and earthy, is a good argument for treating this class of land leniently.

For *cháhi* land there was generally only one rate, but where necessary the wells were divided into two or more classes, with different rates, the grouping being as a rule done by the Tahsildars and agreed to by those concerned; the assessment of land irrigated from springs generally gave rise to disputes, owing to the fact that the distribution of the water is not in proportion to the land held by the different owners in the area irrigated; in these cases the difficulty was sometimes solved by working out the total sum in excess of the *bárání* assessment which might fairly be paid by the whole of the area irrigated, and distributing this over the holdings not by an acreage rate on the land irrigated, but in proportion to the shares of each in the water.

As regards the *sailáb*, the people invariably objected to distinguishing between good and bad, though the quality of this kind of land varies very greatly within most estates, and it is therefore somewhat unfair at first to assess it all at the same rate; but the quality of such land is constantly changing, and by the operation of the di-alluvion rules the inequalities of the assessment will tend to right themselves; moreover the difficulty of working those rules would be immensely increased by having a number of different rates on the *sailáb* assessed at settlement; for these reasons an all-round rate on *sailáb* was allowed as desired by the owners in all the riverain villages, practically without exception.

A comparison between the revenue rates and the average *báchh* rates on each class of land in every circle, has been made in paragraph 70 above.

In all cases I passed orders regarding the method of distribution myself in the presence of those interested; the file being always brought up within a convenient distance of the village. The matter had already been carefully gone into on the spot by the Tashildar (or in some instances by the Deputy Superintendent), so that the people had had plenty of time to think over the points in dispute. As a rule, however, there was no dispute, and they were only too ready to accept any suggestion made to them, without really considering how it would affect their interests; as a whole the zamíndárs took much less interest in the proceedings than their importance justified, and in consequence there was a plentiful crop of objections when the detailed *báchh* was announced, and in some cases I found it necessary to revise the method of distribution, and have the *báchh* done afresh. It is impossible to satisfy everyone, but I think that on the whole the *báchh* is fair.

In connection with the *báchh* it remains only to add that the orders postponing the announcement of the new *jamas* nearly doubled the work besides giving rise in other directions to complications which were not so easily foreseen. The *báchh* was made and announced on two separate occasions in three out of the four Tahsils: the first, that by which the old demand was re-distributed over the new areas by re-measurement, was carried out in the usual way. In order to save time when the *báchh* lists were revised on the announcement of the new assessments, I was directed by the Settlement Commissioner to so fix the new *jama* of each village that it would be brought out by raising the sum already due on each holding by so many annas or pice per rupee; (it is for this reason that the new assessments are in most cases not in round numbers, Rs. 1,995 or Rs. 2,007 or some such amount being assessed instead of the round Rs. 2,000), it was not quite such a simple matter to carry out these orders as might at first sight be supposed; in the first place, it was common in some parts of the district to assess in the *báchh* certain classes of land, particularly *cháhi* and *banjar*, at fixed rates per acre; these fixed assessments had first to be weeded out, and kept out of both sides of the calculation. In the second place, the first *báchh* had in some Tahsils been carried out when it was supposed that remissions for damage by roadside trees would be granted by deductions from the village assessment, and owing to the decision that such land should be treated as unassessed in the village *báchh*, it was necessary to strike out the amount assessed on these roadside plots from the sum available for increase. The third and worst complication was caused by the protective leases granted to the owners of new wells; when the first *báchh* was made, the full amount of the old *jama* had to be distributed; so the holders of these leases could not get their reduction in the usual way by a remission on the part of Government; nor could the well owners be called upon to pay more than the unirrigated assessment; the orders were to treat protected *cháhi* land in the *báchh* as though it were *maiva* and where this was done it became necessary at the second *báchh* to raise the assessment of this land from the old *maiva* rate to the new *cháhi* rate, whatever that might be: the complications that this caused are not at first obvious, and it would be tedious to explain them in detail, but at any rate they were considerable; where the protected land was given the relief due by assessing it from the first at *cháhi* rates, and distributing the difference between the assessment they gave and the assessment at *maiva* rates over the whole village, these complications did not arise; and this course, which was not contrary to the spirit of the orders above referred to, was fortunately adopted in most cases.

There is no doubt that the second *báchh* according to the procedure above sketched took much less time than would have been spent had an entirely new *báchh* been carried out; but the saving was not so great as had been hoped.

91. The *Wájib-ul-arz* or statement of village customs (document No. 8) was Village Administration attested by Rai Bhawáni Dás in 1899-1900; it ought to have been taken up at an earlier stage. The entries in the old *Wájib-ul-arz*, re-arranged according to the 12 heads now prescribed, were written up in a sort of register, in which the brief statements of the parties, the opinion of the Tahsildar, and the order of the Extra Assistant Settlement



Officer, passed after enquiry made within a convenient distance of the village were entered in columns provided for the purpose. In case of disputes, which could not be conveniently decided on this register, separate files were made up.

Such disputes were rather numerous; the entries in the old *Wājib-ul-arz* could not legally be varied except by consent of those concerned, or in accordance with judicial decisions by which they are bound, so there was not perhaps much advantage in making a detailed enquiry; but it was thought permissible after first stating the right as recorded at last settlement, to add a note stating that the entry was disputed, and setting forth what seemed to be the actual practice at present in force; in many cases there have been judicial orders since settlement, which do not, however, bind the whole body of the persons interested; the existence of these decisions has been noted.

92. The most frequent disputes related to *kamiāna*, the dues taken by the owners from the *kamīns* or artisans plying their trade in the village; these fees are referred to in paragraphs 127 and 286 of Mr. Brandreth's Settlement Report, and in paragraph 214 of Mr. Thomson's; the origin and nature of this cess is involved in some obscurity; Mr. Brandreth remarked that it had in most of the Punjab Districts been abolished, but in this Division had been, (not introduced), but preserved by Mr. Thornton; he considered that it was partly the rent of the land on which the artisans' houses are built, but chiefly an acknowledgment of the superior rights of the village owners. Major Wace, (quoted by Mr. Thomson), observed that the levy of *kamiāna* had become a matter of much uncertainty, owing to the issue by the Government of certain orders which he cites; he says nothing as to the nature of the cess, though in the civil suit marginally\* noted he had gone fully into the matter, and after an exhaustive enquiry regarding the practices in the villages of southern Chakwāl, came to the conclusion that *kamiāna* is a tax levied by the owners from all artisans who actually carry on their trade in the village, and depend on it wholly or partly for their subsistence, their liability being unaffected by their becoming full owners in the estate, (and *à fortiori* unaffected by their purchasing the sites of their houses); if this view is correct, and as far as my observations go, I think it is, the common objections of the *kamīns*, that they are no longer liable for the payment if they become proprietors in the estate or buy the site of their house, or that the payment is on account of watch and ward, are untenable; the real test is whether they ply their trade for profit in the village or not. I notice that in the Final Report of the Shāhpur Settlement, paragraph 90, Mr. Wilson writes—

"When a man of the artisan class gives up his caste occupation, and becomes an agriculturist, he is exempted from the tax." This agrees with Major Wace's finding in the case above referred to.

The artisans are becoming more and more independent, and show a strong tendency to throw off as far as they can their hereditary subordination to the owners; where, therefore, as is often the case, the proceeds of the *kamiāna* tax go to pay the *chaukidārs* of the village, the *kamīns* generally claim that what they pay is not *kamiāna*, but a *chaukidāri* tax; this claim is not correct; the method of disposing of the money realised does not in any way alter the nature of the payment. Where, however, the due is recorded in the former *Wājib-ul-arz* as *chaukidāra*, it has necessarily been again so recorded now. *Kamiāna* has now been recorded as due in 275 estates distributed over all the district, except Jhelum, where there are four instances only; there were disputes about it in 124 villages.

93. The next most fruitful subject of disputes was *haq-bakri* the payment of a few rupees by non-proprietors to the owners, or more commonly to one or more of the headmen, on the occasion of the marriage of a daughter; there were 97 disputes; and the payment was recorded as due in 76 estates, confined almost entirely to the Pind Dādan Khan and Chakwāl Tahsils; this due is most strongly objected to by the Hindūs; and it is in fact a payment, which in their case tends to fall into disuse, as it is

\* File not available for reference: the decision is quoted in my order dated 8th June 1901 in appeal No. 34 of 1901, *Ghulam Haidar, &c., v. Pir Bakhsht, &c., of Bhon.*

often inconvenient for the lambardárs to disoblige them; in seven cases a previous entry conferring the right has been struck out by consent of the parties. This due is referred to in paragraphs 278, 286 and 306 of Mr. Brandreth's report, but only incidentally.

Other disputes related to the rights of tenants as to trees (17); rights in the water of torrents (9); management of, and method of dividing the *shámilát* (20); *malba* (9); fees on water-mills (7); other matters (17). I add some remarks on some of these subjects.

94. *Rights in torrent water*; the rules for the division between estates of the flood water of the hill torrents are of importance only in the plains of Pind Dádan Khan: the respective rights of different villages have been enquired into and recorded in the *Wájib-ul-arz* where there were disputes, which have in most cases already been the subject of civil suits; within estates the distribution is regulated by the simple rule that those may take who can, that is, the owners of the higher fields are entitled to take as much as they want before passing the water on to those below them. The complicated shares in the water of springs have also been recorded, in some cases for the first time.

95. *Management of the shámilát*; it has become rather a frequent practice for owners to enclose common land for their exclusive use, without any formal partition, a course which causes much inconvenience to the non-proprietors, but one with which it is not easy to interfere, as the owners are within their rights. The old entry giving all the inhabitants the right of free grazing over the undivided common land of the estate has, however, been repeated for what it is worth; and the people generally agreed to a new entry extending the right, in accordance with the existing practice, to the stubble (*wadh*) for a short time after the harvesting of the crops.

96. *Malba*; the old entries were in accordance with the orders contained in Revenue Circular No. 36, Appendix D, and have been repeated; following, however, the orders in Punjab Government letter No. 196, dated 18th October 1893, the purposes to which the fund may be applied for the common benefit of the village have been set forth in detail, and it has been provided that the lambardárs must maintain accounts, which shall be open to inspection by the co-sharers; the administration of the *malba* fund gives rise to many disputes and much ill-feeling, and I at one time proposed therefore to introduce a system whereby the lambardárs should get a fixed sum per annum to be realised with the land revenue, and should be responsible, (except on extraordinary occasions, such as re-measurement of the village), for all expenses whether more or less than their realisations; but this provision was not agreed to in any case by all of those concerned; and under existing orders, referred to in paragraph 96 of Douie's Manual, it could not be forced upon them. The lambardárs have therefore to recover the amount due as best they can, with the result that the more influential members of the community, and particularly money-lenders, pay nothing towards the village expenses. To meet some of the worst cases of this kind I asked for sanction to the recovery of the *malba* dues, in a few selected villages, on the official *báchh* lists; the Financial Commissioner, however, in Junior Secretary's No. 4411, dated 19th July 1901, has expressed his entire concurrence in the conclusions arrived at in the correspondence of 1893, on the Shahpur case, remarking that beyond recording customs relating to the *malba*, we should abstain from all attempts at regulation. It is open to the lambardár to sue recalcitrant contributors in the Revenue Courts, and no other assistance can be given to him.

97. Disputes regarding water-mills were chiefly in respect to the alleged right of the village owners to get their grain ground for them without charge where they exact no rent for the use of the site of the mill.

In accordance with the orders now in force, customs relating to the inhabited site were not recorded: had they been enquired into, they would have produced a plentiful crop of disputes, as the old entries are in many cases not in accordance with actual practice.

Under the head of other important matters, in addition to subjects dealt with above, customs relating to the right to use burial or burning grounds, to use tanks or drinking wells, rights in the hides of dead cattle, the disposal of surplus manure, and matters relating to the headmen and *chaukidárs*, have been recorded. In addition a provision as to stack burning was entered in most of the villages of the Pind Dádan Khan Tahsil; this form of incendiarism is a common offence in the district, and it is one which it is very difficult to bring home to the culprits; it was therefore proposed to insert a clause providing that loss from this cause, unless brought home against individuals, should be made good to the owner of the burnt rick by the village as a whole. Such a condition, if effectively worked, would, it was believed, almost entirely put a stop to such offences; the people generally raised objections at first, but on fuller explanation were usually brought to consent; the matter coming, however, to the notice of the Settlement Commissioner, he remarked that it has been held over and over again that we should not attempt to introduce new conditions of this kind, however desirable they may be in themselves; and he did not think that any such clause should be inserted without the approval of the Financial Commissioner, even where the consent (real or nominal) of the people had been obtained. The matter was therefore dropped; the entries which had then already been made in the Pind Dádan Khan Tahsil were not struck out, but will no doubt remain a dead letter.

In 95 villages the *Wájib-ul-arz* contains a provision as to the effect on occupancy rights of the destruction by diluvion of the lands in which they exist. In only five villages is there now a provision that the right of occupancy is then lost; in a few estates, a condition to this effect has now been struck out by consent. In only three cases was the entry disputed.

98. The last of the documents forming part of the record is the field map, (No. 9); the only peculiarity about it is that the marginal index provided for in the rules has not been written up, being replaced by an Index showing field numbers and holding numbers, attached both to the *khatamís* and to the record of rights; Settlement Commissioner had some hesitation in sanctioning this departure from the letter of the rules, but orders have since been issued prescribing the same course in other districts.

99. The records of rights for the Pind Dádan Khan Tahsil were filed in November 1900, and those for the other three Tahsils were ready in March 1901 when orders came to announce the new *jamas* and those of Jhelum and Tallagang were therefore kept in the Tahsil. The Chakwál records were filed in March 1901, and those of the two remaining Tahsils at the beginning of August.

The kánúngo's Record-room has long been separate, but it was exceedingly small, and it would have been quite impossible to get the new records into it; a new Revenue Record-room has therefore been provided, which is ample for all present requirements; for the storage of the new maps we have used the Mooltan tin boxes which are now usual and are certainly the best means of disposing of the somewhat unwieldy mapping sheets; their lids have an inconvenient tendency to subside in the middle, and I would recommend any officers who intend to use similar boxes to devise some method of preventing this.

The maps suffer a good deal from the constant rolling and unrolling which they undergo before they are finally filed; and they would arrive in much better condition if kept flat from the first. I see no reason why this should not be done if they were only a little smaller; and the present very wide margin might easily be reduced in size with this object.

Together with the field maps, an index has been filed in the sadr kánúngo's office, from which he can in a moment ascertain on which of the various mapping sheets composing the map of a village any particular field is to be found. This aid to reference is not prescribed; but it will be very useful, especially in the case of large estates.

The binding of the records is, I regret to say, somewhat inferior, the contractors not having done their work well, partly perhaps because the price fixed did not allow them much margin for profit, and partly because they were not supervised by any one with a knowledge of book-binding. I am making some suggestions on the subject separately.

## MISCELLANEOUS MATTERS.

100. The work of deciding mutations, partitions, and boundary cases is closely connected with that of the preparation of the record-of-rights, in which the results of these proceedings are incorporated. I give some particulars below as to this work, which was very heavy under all three heads.

The mutations decided during progress of the settlement are as follows :—

1895-96	...	...	...	..	...	...	...	31,309
1896-97	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	38,077
1897-98	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	30,316
1898-99	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	40,769
1899-1900	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	51,506
1900-01 (part)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	15,364
								<hr/>
Total								207,341
								<hr/>

This total was largely exceeded in Siálkot, but has not I think been approached in any other recently completed settlement ; if a large outturn of mutation work is evidence of care in the preparation of the record-of-rights, as I consider that to some extent it is, these figures are in its favour. The large amount of mutation work added considerably to the burden both of the attesting officers and of the subordinate staff, and the record work was made more difficult, as practically the whole of the mutations shown above were incorporated in the *jamabandi* of the standing record. I gave mutation work a good deal of attention, and it was I think well done on the whole ; much more time was indeed devoted to it than would be necessary now under a recent decision of the Financial Commissioner ; I am far from regretting this, as the trouble taken undoubtedly kept a large number of disputes out of the Law Courts.

The area dealt with in partition proceedings, (including private partitions sanctioned by mutation orders), in the five years 1895 to 1900, was 236,034 acres, including 154,664 acres cultivated, or 15 per cent. of the whole cultivated area of the district paying about one-ninth of the total revenue demand. I can assert with confidence that the partition work done in the settlement, though still sometimes faulty, is a vast improvement on what was done in the district before it ; it has been throughout in the hands of Rai Bahádur Bhawáni Dás, who has given it much attention.

Boundary work was also heavy ; the total number of cases during the settlement was close on 3,000, but most of them were of a petty character : the large cases were chiefly those with the villages of adjoining districts, and a few of these in which the estates of the Ráwalpindí and Bannú Districts and of the Sháhpur Hills were concerned gave little trouble, but in addition to these, nearly the whole of about 100 miles of river boundary with the Kashmír State and the Gujrát and Sháhpur Districts came under consideration in one way or another, and some of the disputes were very complicated and troublesome. The number of large cases was 38, not counting action taken by me in the spring of the present year under the Riverain Boundaries Act, resulting in the demarcation of about 26 miles of the boundary between this district and Gujrát. The Kashmír boundary was more than once inspected by Rai Bhawáni Dás, in the company of the Settlement Officer, Bhimbar, representing the State, and

a report on the subject was submitted in 1899, on which orders were passed in Chief Secretary's No. 288, dated 9th March 1900; the boundary fixed by the two officers was accepted; and in accordance with a suggestion that I had made, I was instructed to draw up few simple rules for the guidance of officers dealing with the boundary in future; this has been done, and the rules framed are given in Appendix D; but they have not as yet been finally accepted by the Darbár. The custom which has grown up on this part of the river is a rather curious one, the boundary not being permanently fixed, though the deep-stream rule is not in force, and the greater part of the line at any given time is a fixed one; it was not originally proposed to substitute a permanently fixed boundary, because it was understood that the State authorities would not agree to this, and the present arrangement works well enough; but a fixed boundary would certainly be more satisfactory, and as it appeared from a recent communication that the State Council is now no longer inclined to object, I have suggested that I should be authorised to lay down a permanent line, a simple matter, so much of the boundary being (until further changes) already a fixed one.

101. The settlement operations have lasted only a month or two short of six years, which is longer than was anticipated; they have, however, been carried on under some rather serious disadvantages, foremost amongst which are of course the bad harvests; not only did they cause serious interruption of the measurements and considerably delay their conclusion, even where it was not necessary to stop them altogether for a time, they gave rise in many ways to work which would not otherwise have been necessary; thus suspensions were a trouble that constantly recurred harvest after harvest, and took up a good deal of the time of both officers and subordinates; the work in connection with them is no small matter when the number of villages dealt with is so large as it was here, and there is discrimination between rich and poor; the Revenue staff was also on two or three occasions employed, though to an inconsiderable extent, on famine test-works; and in three Tahsils a double *báchh* was rendered necessary by the decision of Government that the new assessments could not be announced at a time of severe distress; the time of subordinates was also taken up now and then with assistance in the work of distributing the large sums of *takávi* and other money allotted to the district. Great inconvenience was also caused by the absence of a large proportion of the population from their homes at the time when the records were being attested, mutations were being decided, and cases in which they were concerned were under enquiry.

The Census, coming at the time when the work was approaching completion, and the pressure was very great, also delayed the conclusion of the settlement, by not less probably than two months.

To these causes may be added the incompleteness of the settlement establishment for most of the first year and the deficiency of Settlement Tahsildars which has been noticed elsewhere.

The settlement has also, I think, been a heavy one in a good many ways; the district is a difficult one to survey, and there has been much case work of various kinds. Also it appears from a statement recently circulated by the Settlement Commissioner that the temporary establishment has been smaller here in comparison with the work to be done, measured by the number of holdings, area of cultivation, &c., than in any of the settlements then in progress.

There is, however, no doubt that the work could have been done rather more quickly had not the Settlement Officer been engaged in acquiring experience as the settlement proceeded; the presence of an experienced assistant in Rai Bhawáni Dás could only partially compensate for the want of experience with which I began the settlement; and until the post of Settlement Commissioner was revived about a year after the commencement, I had been left very much to my own devices.

## CHAPTER VI.—MISCELLANEOUS.

102. The rules relating to di-alluvion assessments, and for dealing with water-mills, which were approved by Government, in Revenue Secretary's No. 182, dated 22nd October 1900, are printed in Appendix C. The rules originally drafted by me were in a few cases somewhat modified by superior authority; I hope I shall be pardoned for saying that I doubt the wisdom of some of the alterations thus made; thus the rules sent up enabled the assessing officer to rate very inferior land bearing "first class" crops of a poor character at one-fourth of the full rate, but this was not allowed on the ground that the multiplication of rates makes matters too complicated; as, however, one-quarter of the full rate is the same thing as half the lower rate, (which can be imposed under the rules as sanctioned),\* this objection does not seem to hold good as regards first class crops; and it is for them that latitude is most required, as there is a large amount of recently formed land of very poor quality, which nevertheless grows wheat, a first class crop, and is therefore liable to assessment at the higher rate; there is no reason why such land should escape assessment altogether, but it is too poor to pay half the full rate, and a quarter of that rate would just meet the case. After some years working of the rules there will probably be a few points as to which they will require amendment; and whenever they come under discussion I hope that the above remarks will be considered. The correspondence ending with Settlement Commissioner's No. 134, dated 22nd January 1901, in which I laid before him certain doubts as to the meaning of the amended rules, may also then be referred to.

The rules for giving relief on account of damage by *shor* are novel; they were certainly wanted, and if well worked will be a great boon to the zamíndárs of the Pind Dádan Khan Plains, though it may be that the extension of canal irrigation will render them less necessary hereafter than they have been hitherto.

The rules relating to water-mills are also new; I foresee some small difficulties in working them, but it is too early as yet to say anything definite.

103. Appendix E contains a note on secure and insecure areas, and a scheme of suspensions and remissions, which after prolonged discussion has been finally revised and submitted for the approval of the Financial Commissioner:† the principal feature of the scheme is the special form of Abstract Note-book for use in this district, which under the sanction of the Financial Commissioner has been substituted for the usual form; it ought to prove very useful to the Deputy Commissioner when dealing with the difficult questions of suspension and remission.

Secure and insecure areas are shown with sufficient accuracy for general purposes on the map attached to this report.

104. When interviewing the zamíndárs in connection with the *báchh* and other matters, I discussed with them the suitability of the dates hitherto fixed for the land revenue instalments, which were as follows for the whole district:—

*Kharif*.—Half on 15th December, half on 15th January.

*Rabi*.— Do. 15th June, do. 15th July.

Out of 985 estates 194 asked for a postponement of these dates to, generally, a month later; and I recommended that in their case, and in the Pind Dádan Khan Hills, where the *rabi* harvest is later than in the rest of the district, a postponement of 15 days should be allowed; with the proviso that the matter should be considered again after an interval of a year or two, in case it should be found that the zamíndár could not keep his produce long enough to benefit by the delay; this is the main objection to putting back the dates; to some extent it is a race between the money-lender and the lambardár,

\* Looking at the rules again I see that it is only the maximum rate of which half can be imposed under rule 6. It ought certainly, I think, to be permissible to assess half the lower rate as well.

† Since sanctioned in Junior Secretary's No. 5279, dated 30th August 1901.

and the latter is rather heavily handicapped if the *sáhúlkár* gets a start of some weeks; the arguments in favour of a change are that by the earlier dates hitherto prescribed village prices have not had time to steady themselves, and the zamíndár is obliged to take whatever price the village *bánia* says is right; a little later the harvest prices of the neighbourhood, which once established, vary little or not at all, have become fixed and known and the cultivator is likely to get a fairer price for his produce; further the *lohri*, (about 11th January), and *dhamdeh*, (about 14th July), are the dates at which accounts for the half-year are made up and a fresh balance struck, interest for another harvest beginning to run; to those who have to borrow this is a consideration of some importance; although in practice nearly all the revenue was paid after the second instalment, which did not fall due until after the dates referred to above, it must be remembered that the lambardár begins to collect some time before he appears at the Tahsíl. In forwarding the proposals the Settlement Commissioner added another argument for an alteration of the dates, that it would give the Collector sufficient time to mature his proposals regarding suspensions and realisations; he considered that the dates should not vary from village to village: and that, as in Shahpur and Ráwalpindi, there should be one date only for each harvest, (15th January and 15th July), on which prompt payment should be enforced, rather than two dates, the first of them little more than nominal. The Financial Commissioner, however, thought that there were some advantages in having two dates for each harvest; and sanctioned the Settlement Commissioner's alternative proposal that the dates for the whole district should be put back a fortnight,\* as below:—

*Kharif*.—1st January, and 1st February.

*Rabi*.—1st July, and 1st August.

It was remarked that it did not seem necessary to provide for any special revision of the dates, as the Collector can at any time apply for an order of the Financial Commissioner changing them; the new arrangement is not without its disadvantages, and its working should be watched: meanwhile the payment of a fair proportion of the revenue on the earlier of the two dates should, I think, be insisted on; those of the owners in whose ability to hold out until the later date the lambardár is not confident will then probably pay at least as soon as they have done hitherto.

The zamíndárs have settled for themselves the proportion of the demand which they will pay in each harvest; but where, as is usual, the *rabi* is by far the more important harvest of the two, I have generally advised them to pay one-third in the *kharif* and two-thirds in the *rabi*, and a great number of estates formerly paying half and half, or *panj-doandi*, (two-fifths *kharif* and three-fifths *rabi*), have acted on this advice; the main objection to *panj-doandi* is that they cannot understand the accounts; the most dense zamíndár understands the half and half arrangement, and with an effort will comprehend the result of paying two rupees in one harvest for every rupee paid in the other; but when it comes to reckoning in fifths he is hopelessly out of his depth; the objection does not hold good in the more intelligent parts of the district.

105. The orders on the Assessment Reports contemplate the fixing of the term of settlement at twenty years, as has been the custom in recent settlements; the new assessments have accordingly been announced for this term. The present instructions on the subject are given in paragraphs 490-1 of Douie's Manual, but some observations of later date of the Government of India in their orders on the Final Report of the revision of settlement in the Nágpur District of the Central Provinces, are much to the point, and are quoted below, (from a newspaper report of October last which does not state the number and date of the letter).

"The assessments will have a currency of twenty years, the ordinary period now fixed for the duration of settlements in the Central Provinces. In the present circumstance of the Province, which permit of the rapid extension of the cultivated area and the rapid increase in rentals of estates, a longer term of settlement has been found by experience to augment greatly the difficulties of revision, and embarrass the State in asserting its rights to participate in such

\* Financial Commissioner's Office No. 6032, dated 20th October 1900.



increases. A period of twenty years has been, therefore, fixed with the concurrence of the Secretary of State as a convenient mean, between short term settlements which are not uncommon in backward parts of India, and the full term settlements of thirty years, which are suitable for fully developed districts. In this respect the Central Provinces has now been placed on the same footing as the Punjab, and the experience in the Province is that the term of twenty years is compatible with a very satisfactory advance in agricultural prosperity and in the market value of land."

This pronouncement is, as far as I know, the latest exposition of the views of the Government of India on this subject; and it emboldens me to ask whether there are not reasons for reconsidering the orders passed on the Assessment Reports; it is clearly the intention that the term of settlement in fully developed districts should be thirty years, not twenty; the question then is whether the Jhelum District is "fully developed;" and I do not see how it can be contended that it is not; I have in a previous chapter shown what I believe to be good grounds for holding that the increase in cultivation in the next generation is very unlikely to exceed 10 per cent., and nothing could be more certain than that at least 90 per cent. of the new cultivation will be of the poorest imaginable quality, and had much better continue to serve its present purpose as grazing ground. The conditions here are not those in which a "rapid increase in the rental of estates" is a factor to be considered; railway extension, so far as it tends to develop the resources of this district, has probably reached its limit for the present, and there is no money for the improvement of internal communications. The question of prices remains, and no one can foretell their course; but if stable prices are a condition essential to full development, then no district in India has reached that state. I know no other way in which marked progress may be expected, unless it be in making good all the ground lost in the last year or two. Add to this what I cannot but consider a full assessment, involving an enhancement of the demand far in excess of the increase in cultivation since settlement, and I think a fair case is made out for a thirty years' settlement, which, but that a shorter term has become usual in the Punjab, would probably have been conceded without hesitation.

It might run from *kharif* 1899, when but for bad harvests the new assessments would have taken effect: the above remarks relate to the district as a whole; particular tracts within it will no doubt develop to a greater extent, but in none is the progress made likely to be important. I leave out of consideration the improvement of the Pind Dādan Khan plains, and especially the *shor* lands, owing to the expected extension of canal irrigation, for improvement of that kind carries with it a proportionate increase in the revenue.

The evils of frequent settlements are well-known; I made some remarks on their more superficial aspects in paragraph 72 of the Jhelum Assessment Report, which I need not repeat here: it is the literal fact (though Settlement Commissioner demurred to the statement), that as remarked in the paragraph referred to the district has been under settlement for one year in every three since annexation, though it does not indeed follow that the people were being put to trouble and expense all the time.

106. Of the total area of the district 295,246 acres or 12 per cent. is the property of the State; out of this area 10,644 acres is leased for cultivation, 8,258 acres on long leases (29 in number), and 2,386 acres from year to year; these waste land leases have been dealt with in a detailed report submitted with my No. 247, dated 9th April 1901, to Commissioner, Rāwalpindi, and the special cases of the leases to the Khewrah Salt miners,\* and the riverain estate of Mahāl Amīrpur† have been separately dealt with in the correspondence marginally noted; it would be useless to say more on the subject until the orders of Government on these references are received. The figures here given relate to 1900-1901; a few additional leases have been proposed since. I think they that almost exhaust the possibilities of the district in this direction, and that with a few exceptions which will be separately noticed, all applications for further leases should be rejected.

State lands.

\* No. 248, dated 9th April 1901, to Commissioner.

† Deputy Commissioner's No. 1017, dated 14th June 1901, to Commissioner, Rāwalpindi.



Of the remaining area of 284,602 acres, the Deputy Commissioner directly manages 57,980 acres and the rest is under the control of the Forest Department.

The average income of the last five years is Rs. 21,318, of which Rs. 16,921 is derived from grazing leases and permits, Rs. 2,929 from leases for cultivation and Rs. 1,468 from other sources.

107. For a description of the *rakhs* of the district reference is invited to Chapter VIII of Mr. Thomson's Settlement Report\* ; it is enough to say here that they fall into two main divisions, the hill *rakhs*, including practically the whole of all the principal hill ranges except, of course, the cultivated uplands of the Salt Range; and the plains *rakhs*, situated chiefly in the plateau of Chakwál and Tallagang and consisting for the most part of blocks of broken waste ground, sometimes of insignificant size, cut off from villages which at the time of their formation were thought to have more waste than they required. The first and more important class consists mostly of reserved forests under the control of the Forest Department, while the second kind are usually unclassified *rakhs* under the Deputy Commissioner, but there are large exceptions in both cases.

Our present *rakhs* had predecessors before British rule in the reservations, chiefly for sport, of the Janjua Chiefs, and the Sikh Kárdárs, whose example was followed in the unauthorised appropriations of waste with which the Customs officials accompanied their assumption of control over the Salt Mines in the early years after annexation. The earliest reservations on a large scale were not, however, effected until the first Regular Settlement, when partly as a solution of a series of bitter quarrels regarding the ownership of the hills, but partly also for climatic reasons, and to provide a reserve of wood and fodder, a large area of hill waste was demarcated by the Settlement Officer and declared to be Government Forest; it was also notified that Government reserved the right of appropriating when and wherever it might be found necessary all uncultivated land in excess of 3 times the amount of cultivation. It was on this principle that the Deputy Commissioner acted in carrying out the instructions issued in 1864 for a general demarcation of excessive waste in this district, which resulted in large additions to the old reserves, and the creation of a number of new ones: in the case of the more important hill *rakhs* the reservations, though sound on the whole, were faulty in detail, while in the plains the work was carried out with a great want of discrimination. Serious hardship resulted, and in 1875 the evils of the system in force attracting attention, Mr. Thomson was appointed to deal with the whole question as Forest Settlement Officer; his work resulted in the restoration of 28 of the minor *rakhs* with an area of nearly 20,000 acres to the estates from which they had been taken, while nearly 20,000 acres more was cut off from the *rakhs* that were retained; special rights and privileges were carefully enquired into and recorded; and recommendations made in regard to grazing, fuel, access to water-sources and the like; it is largely because his recommendations were not accepted or were subsequently lost sight of, that it has been necessary to go into the matter of the management of the forests again now.

108. The objects of the hill *rakhs* are, (1) by the preservation of the forest growth to protect the hillsides from destructive drainage, so as to distribute the rainfall as gradually as possible on the plains below; at the same time, it may be, increasing to some extent the volume of that rainfall; and (2) to preserve grass and wood for the supply of the neighbouring villages. To quote from the Government Review of the Report of last settlement—"The future administration of the so-called forests.....is by far the most important unsolved revenue question in the district, and the manner in which it is decided will affect the every-day life and comfort of the people in a very unusual degree. ....The *rakhs* are.....an integral portion of the agricultural and pastoral economy of the district, and as such cannot be treated independently. In our management we are to

\* His detailed reports on each *rakh* are worthy of the attention of the District Officer. I take this opportunity of referring to them, as I have reason to know that Deputy Commissioners have some times been long in the district before becoming aware of their existence.

some extent trustees for the people, bound in great measure to consult their convenience or necessities in the present, rather than our own preconceived ideas of what is best in the interests of forest conservancy or of a future generation."

These principles were not always kept in view, and shortly before the settlement began complaints arose, and in Financial Commissioner's Office No. 4042, dated 23rd July 1896, I was instructed to make an enquiry and report on the concessions required. The correspondence which followed is printed in Government proceedings.\* I will here state briefly the points on which orders have been passed in Punjab Government No. 41, dated 5th February 1901.

*Management.*—In regard to the Unclassed Forests in the plains, it has been decided that they will be managed by the Deputy Commissioner under the rules under the Punjab Laws Act, and not by the Forest Department; as the interests involved in the management of these *rakhs* are purely local, and they do not lend themselves to afforestation.

*Grazing.*—The following principles are to be observed as far as possible in the management of the grazing in the hill *rakhs*; those *rakhs* being set apart which can be wholly and strictly closed, each set of villages with the *rakhs* around it should be regarded as the unit; within the unit two-thirds of the *rakhs* should be open for nine months of the year, and one-third should be closed to grazing throughout the year, but open to grass cutting when necessary; camels, goats (and probably also sheep, but this has not been finally decided), should be excluded from half the open area; the grazing value of the *rakhs* to be assessed for five years, and the grazing to be leased to the villages of the unit, other villages being allowed to graze only on permit or payment of fees. The grazing assessment of a village may be distributed over the village as a whole, or the lease may be held on behalf of the estate by one or a few of the villagers if that is preferred; in case of a breakdown of the system here sketched, if it becomes necessary to lease to individuals instead of to villages, the lessee should be carefully selected, and should never be a mere speculator: and on no account should the old system of auction sales be reverted to.

The system of grouping the *rakhs* and villages as above will be found applicable chiefly in the Salt Range; as regards the proportion to be open and closed, it is not intended to lay down a hard and fast rule, but merely a standard for guidance.

The unclassified plains *rakhs* will be offered on five-years grazing leases to the neighbouring villages: in case of breakdown, the remarks as the selection of lessees above will be applicable.

The authorised scale of grazing fees is as follows:—

Detail.	Maximum rate chargeable by lessees of grazing contracts.	For permits issued departmentally when closed areas are temporarily opened.
	Per annum.	Per mensem.
Camels ... ..	16 annas.	...
Buffaloes ... ..	6 "	4 annas,
Horses and mules, cows and bullocks ... ..	4 "	3 "
Plough cattle ... ..	1 anna.	1 anna,
Donkeys ... ..	2 annas.	2 annas.
Goats ... ..	1 anna.	...
Sheep ... ..	½ "	...
Grasscutter per sickle ... ..	8 annas.	16 annas.

Note.—Young stock charged half rates; cattle belonging to outsiders from a distance with no claim on the *rakh* pay double rates.

*Cultivation in rakhs.*—The question how far cultivation in unclassified *rakhs* should be permitted has not been yet decided; it is very unlikely that any general permission to cultivate will be considered right.

\* (Forests), for April 1898, Nos. 1-8; and for February 1901, Nos. 1-8.

*Fuel.*—The system approved in the case of the hill *rakhs* is the grant of permits for a whole season of three or four months or for any shorter period not less than 15 days; poor men who want a permit for a still shorter period can combine to get a joint ticket in favour of two or more, to be used by only one of them at a time; well-to-do persons may take out permits in the name of a servant, the man who will actually enter the *rakh*. Permits should be issued by the Range Officer at or near the spot, at the following rates (unless they are altered in the final orders still to be obtained):—

Camel-load, 6 annas; bullock or mule-load, 4 annas; donkey-load 2 annas; head-load,  $1\frac{1}{2}$  annas for thick wood and 1 anna for brushwood.

These rates are equivalent to about 1 anna per maund, *plus* of course the labour and cost of collection and carriage.

Sale of wood thus procured is prohibited; and no cutting instrument is allowed within a *rakh*.

The plains *rakhs* contain little wood; dry wood may be collected by persons using the *rakh*, subject to the warning that in case of wilful damage to green wood, the system of leasing the grazing to the villages will be suspended.

*Wood for ploughs.*—Trees fit for ploughs will be marked by the Forest Officer, and persons wanting wood for ploughs can take out a permit from the Range Officer, and select one of the marked trees, to be cut in the presence of the Forest Guard. The rates of payment will be 4 annas for large ploughs and  $2\frac{1}{2}$  annas for small ones.

The plan of cutting and storing wood for ploughs for sale at convenient centres may with advantage be tried at the same time.

*Forest fires.*—These are very rare; but when they do occur, the area damaged will be strictly closed for five years, the dead wood being cut down at once and sold by auction to the highest bidder.

*Bad boundaries, &c.*—A report regarding the amendment of bad boundaries, provision of access to springs and the like has still to be made; the principle that such grievances should be redressed where they exist has, however, been accepted.

In conclusion, I would quote the remark of the Financial Commissioner: "Mr. Tupper does not see that the interest of any 'larger public' is involved. These hill *rakhs*, and *á fortiori* the plains *rakhs* have to be administered for the benefit of the district."

109. It has been decided by Government that the present system of *ilákadárs* is not to be replaced by the more formal *zaildári* system; the *ilákadári* arrangements, which were first introduced shortly before the settlement began, have since been very carefully reconsidered and revised, and, it is hoped, placed on a more satisfactory footing; there have been a certain number of complaints due to the changes made, but that could have been foretold with the greatest confidence, for some one is sure to be dissatisfied by any alteration made, and the people of this district when dissatisfied have no hesitation in making the fact known. The new arrangements are working well, I believe.

Proposals have recently been made regarding the *zamindari ináms* of the district; the arrangements in force are those made at the first regular settlement forty years ago, which were not revised at last settlement, and are in many respects unsuited to the present conditions: orders on this reference have not yet been received.

In connection with the revision of the *ilákadári* arrangements, the Deputy Commissioner has been given assistance in making proposals for the revision of Tháná boundaries, which are not at present well arranged.

110. The *lambardári* arrangements were dealt with by Mr. Thomson in paragraph 206 of his Final Report; he there explains how it is that the number of *lambardárs* in this district is so much greater than good administration requires. The inconvenience that results is sometimes considerable, and I therefore formed the intention of going into the matter fully, and proposing a scheme for the gradual reduction of the

superfluous posts; the matter coming, however, to the notice of Mr. Tupper, as Commissioner of Ráwalpindí, he came to the conclusion that sweeping reductions would do more harm than good, owing to the bad blood and soreness on the part of the families whose posts would be reduced, which in a district like Jhelum would sometimes have serious consequences; he directed therefore that reductions should only be proposed where no fit heir was available, which is of course very seldom the case.

It is, I think, a good thing that my proceedings in this matter were thus brought to an end; the result is that the number of lambardárs is practically the same as before, nine posts having been reduced and six new ones having been created, in addition to new appointments for the Government *rakhs* containing leases, &c., which hitherto have had no headmen, as they should do according to the rules.

Where there are several lambardárs in a estate, they have usually hitherto collected and paid in the revenue jointly, an arrangement which has often very unsatisfactory results; I have therefore taken steps in such cases to make each responsible for the payments of certain specified owners, the joint liability of the village in the ultimate resort being of course unaffected; collections will I believe be a good deal facilitated by this measure. I have not, however, insisted on taking this action where the lambardárs agree well together, and were opposed to a change, so there are still a few estates where the headmen collect the revenue jointly.

In the course of these proceedings, as well as on other occasions, the distribution of the *pachotra* or lambardár's fees came under discussion, and owing to the changes that have occurred since their shares were fixed, I have in some cases seen reason to revise them; but action of this kind gives rise to bad feeling, and has been avoided as far as possible.

There is one more point to notice in connection with the *lambardári* arrangements; in a few villages \* one or more of the lambardárs takes double *pachotra*, 10 per cent. instead of 5 per cent.: adding the *patwár* cess, which has now been fixed at  $6\frac{1}{2}$  per cent. we get a total village officer's cess of  $16\frac{1}{2}$  per cent. which is  $3\frac{3}{4}$  per cent. in excess of the legal limit of one anna per rupee of the annual value, prescribed by Section 29 of the Land Revenue Act. I have however, maintained the old arrangement, which is, I think, in all cases based on a judicial order of Mr. Brandreth, though the file of his proceedings is not always forthcoming. The double *pachotra* is usually levied from a particular section only of the owners, nearly always the *málikán qabza* referred to in paragraph 114; and it seems to be more of the nature of *málikána*, or seignorage, than remuneration of the lambardár as a village officer; but in some cases the origin of the cess is different, the double fees being taken by two different men; the reason for this arrangement is that at the first regular settlement when the men entitled to the post of headmen had been appointed, the *qabza máliks* or some other section of the owners, who had been given no representative of their own, were allowed to have one on condition that they should pay for his *pachotra* in addition to that of the lambardár previously appointed. It seems unnecessary to interfere with arrangements of long standing, to which no one objects, even though they may not be usual.

111. The number of fields in the district before the recent survey was Number of fields and holdings. 1,131,050 and it is now 1,541,440, an increase of about 37 per cent., due chiefly to the worse than unnecessary reduction in the number of fields a few years before the settlement, which is noticed in paragraph 87; the average area per field is still over  $1\frac{1}{2}$  acres. and I do not think that on the whole too many separate numbers have been made; in any case I would rather have too many than too few, for superfluous fields only add somewhat to the *patwáris'* work, while if there are too few, inaccuracies in the crop returns and other inconvenience are bound to result.

Holdings number about 364,000, an increase of 50,000 or more, partitions during settlement operations alone accounting for an increase of over 21,000.

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\* In 29 cases, 22 of them being in the Chakwál Tahsil.

Number of estates : territorial changes : tenures.

### 112. The number of estates is shown below—

TAHSIL.	PRIVATELY OWNED.				Owned by the State.	Total.
	Zamíndári.	Pattídári.	Bhaiachára.	Total.		
Jhelum ... ..	17	34	389	440	21	461
Pind Dádan Khan ... ..	12	10	188	210	24	234
Chakwál ... ..	8	21	219	248	12	260
Tallagang ... ..	1	6	78	85	18	103
District ... ..	38	71	874	983	75	1,058

The changes during these operations have been small; two estates have been amalgamated with others, and two new ones have been formed\*; four estates have been transferred from the Tallagang Tahsil, one to Chakwál, and three to Pind Dádan Khan, where one merges in an existing estate.\* Otherwise there have been no boundary changes.

As regards village tenures, one would expect to find the number of *bhaiachára* estates increasing at the expense of the other two classes; *zamíndári* estates become *pattídári* when the single joint holding of which they consist is split up on shares, an event which is bound to occur sooner or later; and in *pattídári* villages the tendency is to abandon ancestral shares, and make possession the measure of right; this was done in a number of cases at the recent *báchh*, where in the course of time some of the sharers have come to hold much more than their share, while others hold much less; it then usually becomes necessary to do away with the old arrangement by shares, though for certain purposes such as *malba* payments the owners sometimes elect to continue to be bound by them.

113. These tenures are found in 73 estates, and take the form of a sur-charge on the revenue, varying in amount from one pice to four annas per rupee of revenue, the total amount of these *talkedári* payments (as they are vulgarly called) being only Rs. 7,106; the recipients are usually the representatives or members of the leading families of the Gakkhar, Janjúa, and other dominant tribes, who were generally allowed these dues as the last vestige of their former ownership or lordship of the villages which pay them; they occur chiefly in the Jhelum and Pind Dádan Khan Tahsils. Major Wace's remarks on these tenures are contained in paragraph 27 of his Assessment Report: he proposed that whatever arrangements were then in force should be continued, and this proposal was sanctioned in paragraph 5 of Punjab Government No. 58-185, dated 13th February 1882: the former arrangements which were accordingly continued, have now become stereotyped and are not open to dispute. The *talúqdárs* are in fact *ala máliks*, and have in some cases been so recorded in the papers, though they have no rights of any description in the *talúqdári* villages, except to receive these small dues; they have nothing to do with the payment of the revenue.†

114. The origin and character of the *qabza málik* tenures are described in paragraphs 266 to 268 of Mr. Brandreth's Settlement Report; he states that the classes from whom the *qabza málikán* have been drawn are chiefly members of the family of the original owners who have fallen into an inferior position, tenants of old standing who

\* Financial Commissioner's Office No. 4317, dated 13th August 1898, and Punjab Government Notification No. 791, dated 27th August 1900.

† Cf. paragraphs 256 to 265 of Mr. Brandreth's Report.

had become to all intents and purposes proprietors of their fields; men who came into the village by gift or marriage; purchasers of particular fields; and those who were put in by the authorities of the time to manage the village during the dispossession of the real owners. The position of the *málik qabza* as described by Mr. Brandreth is this; he has full rights over the particular fields that he holds, but that is all; he "has no share in the rights and responsibilities of the village.....he is not responsible for losses, and therefore he cannot claim a share in the reduction arising from increased cultivation; he has only to pay the sum fixed at settlement and has nothing to do with the village. ....There is this peculiarity, that when the owners have no other means of meeting their losses, they can make this *málik qabza* a sharer and owner in the village, and call upon him to pay his share like the others."

Whether Mr. Brandreth's opinion that the *málik qabza* has no share in the responsibilities of the village now holds good, is more than doubtful; he is a "landowner" under the Act, and under Section 61 is therefore liable, in the absence of a notification under the first proviso of that section, which has never been issued; even if it be held that he is an "inferior landowner," he is still under proviso (b) and Rule 208 liable for the land revenue in the same way as any other owner.

If Mr. Brandreth intended that the *qabza málik* should be unaffected by alterations in the assessment of village, his intentions have not been carried out: except in a few cases where lump payments were distinctly ordered, the position of the *málik qabza* since last settlement has been that he pays the revenue assessable on his holding in the ordinary way, and in addition *málikána* taken by the full proprietors, at a percentage on the land revenue. This arrangement has been continued at the present re-assessment; and the *málik qabza* now differs from the full owner only owing to the fact that he pays the *málikána*, and that he has no share in the *shámilát*. This is the result of the proposals made by Major Wace in paragraph 28 of his Assessment Report, which were accepted by Government in their orders referred to in the previous paragraph.

The above remarks relate only to the old *málikán qabza* created at the first regular settlement, who are of two kinds; the first class includes those whose *málikána* was fixed by separate orders of the nature of judicial decisions; the second and largest class contains those who were not made liable to the payment by any order of this kind; their *málikána* arises from the circumstance that when Mr. Brandreth reduced his original assessments, these men were given no share in the reduction, and at the next settlement the proportion between their payments and those of the full owners was maintained, the difference being then for the first time treated as *málikána* at so much per rupee of the land revenue: the *málikána* rate thus depends not on the history of the particular holding, but on the amount of the reduction, from the benefits of which the *málikán qabza* were excluded by Mr. Brandreth's orders. Whether these orders of last settlement were wise or just, is, I think, open to considerable doubt; but they cannot be altered now, and I have considered it my business merely to continue the arrangements as I found them.

There is now a third class of *málikán qabza*, the men who have bought land without a share in the *shámilát* since the first regular settlement; they pay no *málikána* except in a few villages in Tallagang, where in the recent *báchh* proceedings they agreed to pay at the customary rate in that Tahsil, one pice per rupee; it was a mistake to allow this, as these small payments complicate the *báchh*, and their legality is doubtful. But it is not worth while to make any alteration now.

115. Rai Bhawáni Dás has prepared a detailed report regarding the *qabza málik* tenures, which may be called for if further information is required; he comes to the conclusion that at least where there has been no judicial decision, the *málikána* payments are illegal, being a new cess imposed at last settlement without the consent of the parties. I do not share this view; in the first place, whatever it may have been when first imposed at last settlement, the cess is not now a new

Legality of the *málikána* payments.

one, and I do not think it was so even then, having been paid in one way or another ever since the reductions of assessment granted by Mr. Brandreth: it may, therefore, being now customarily leviable, be considered to come under the definition of a village cess (Section 3 (10) of the Land Revenue Act). Or it may be held that the *málikán-qabza* are "inferior landowners" (as indeed they obviously are in fact though not in name), and that Section 146 of the Act, coupled with the sanction of Government in their orders on Major Wace's Report, is sufficient authority for the continuance of the cess.

I have not, therefore, considered it necessary to make any special report on the subject, but, as already stated, have continued the arrangements which I found in force; no other course was possible.

116. In some villages there is a variation of the *qabza málik* tenure, the proprietors being divided into three classes: (1) *asl málikán* or, *asl-wárisán*, (2) *wárisán-qabza* (3) *málikán-qabza*; their respective rights and liabilities are not everywhere the same: but in general the third class has as usual no share in the *shámílat*: the second takes a share therein calculated on its own holdings only; and the first takes a share calculated on the holdings of the *málikán-qabza* as well as on its own.

Extent of the above tenures.

117. The following table shows the extent of the tenures described in the last three paragraphs:—

TAHSIL.	TALUQDARI TENURES.			MALIKAN QABZA AND WARISAN QABZA TENURES.					
	Number of estates.	Rates per cent.	Total amount of taluqdári dues paid.	Paying málikána under orders passed at first Regular Settlement,			Paying málikána under general orders passed at Revised Settlement,		
				Number of estates.	Rates per cent.	Total amount of málikána paid.	Number of estates.	Rates per cent.	Total amount of málikána paid.
		Rs. A. Rs.			Rs. A. Rs. A.			Rs. A. Rs. A.	
Jhelum ...	51	From 1 9 to 25	1,641	1	From 9 6 to 15 10	142	1	From 9 6 to 15 10	145
Pind Dádan Khan	14	" 5 0 ,, 10	4,310	45	" 1 9 ,, 13 8	364	78	" 1 9 ,, 15 10	1,086
Chakwál	4	" 10 0 ,, ...	527	1	" 2 0 ,, 5 0	2	66	" 2 0 ,, 40 10	1,031
Tallagang	4	" 10 0 ,, 25	628	49	" 1 9 ,, 15 0	317	63	" 6 9 ,, 5 0	568
District ...	73	" 1 9 ,, 25	7,106	96	" 1 9 ,, 15 10	825	208	" 16 9 ,, 40 10	2,830

118. The number of suits for enhancement of rent filed up to the end of June 1901 was 172, of which 162 were successful. Suits for reduction of rent were 13 only, and none of them succeeded; the litigation of this kind has not, therefore, been heavy, but it has occurred almost entirely in the last year-and-a-half, and is increasing; as moreover it will often be in the hands of officers new to the district, it seems right that some general rules should be laid down for their guidance. I have proposed therefore that the rules printed in paragraph 195 of Gujránwála Final Settlement Report, which appear to be very well suited to the local conditions, should be prescribed for the guidance of the officers who will have to deal with this litigation, though in exceptional cases they would not be bound to follow them. It is much to be hoped that these unprofitable suits will not be encouraged by the grant of needlessly large enhancements.

The Gujránwála rules are printed below for facility of reference.

I.—In the case of occupancy tenants under Section 5 (1) (a), the legal limit of 2 annas per rupee might be decreed at once.

II.—In the case of occupancy tenants, under Section 5 (1) (b) (c) (d), for whom the legal limit is 6 annas per rupee—

- (a). If the old *málikána* is less than 2 annas per rupee, raise to 2 to 4 annas per rupee.
- (b). If the old *málikána* is 2 annas per rupee or more, raise to 4 to 6 annas per rupee.

III.—In the case of occupancy tenants, under Sections 6 and 8, for whom the legal limit is 12 annas per rupee—

- (a). If the old *málikána* is less than 2 annas per rupee, raise to 4 to 6 annas per rupee.
- (b). If the old *málikána* is from 2 to 4 annas per rupee, raise to 6 to 8 annas per rupee.
- (c). If the old *málikána* is more than 4 annas, raise to 8 to 12 annas per rupee.

IV.—But in all cases regard should be had, among other considerations, to the former and present assessment of the holding, at least till five years after re-assessment. If the revenue demand has been largely increased, thereby involving a large addition to the amount of the *málikána*, this would be a reason against a considerable increase in the rate, whereas if the revenue demand has been considerably reduced by re-assessment, that would be a reason for increasing the rate of *málikána*, as otherwise the landlord would lose part of the amount.\*

To these rules it may be added that the history of the tenancy in these cases is very material, and, as ascertainable from the *Nagsha madákhilat*, &c., of previous settlements, should be carefully considered: also that as far as possible enhancements sufficiently large to act as a distinct encouragement to further litigation of the kind should be avoided.

119. A few general remarks on the relations between landlords and tenants may be made here; on the whole, I think, they are fairly good; large landlords are uncommon: the bulk of the occupancy tenants pay merely the land revenue with a small *málikána* at so many pice or annas per rupee of the revenue, and in their case there is nothing to quarrel about; but occupancy tenants paying rent in kind are not uncommon, and relations between them and the owners are not unnaturally often strained, the landlords trying to enforce on the tenants an appraisement of the value of the produce, which the latter do not consider fair; in the worst case of this kind there has now been no trouble since the landlord some years ago took my advice, for the sake of peace and quietness and his own *izzat*, to give up the practice of *kankút* or appraisement, and to divide the actual produce on the threshing floor.

These produce-paying occupancy tenants make desperate attempts, as settlement comes round, to get their rents converted into cash, and for a year or two there is confusion; without the landlord's consent, which he would never dream of giving, such conversion is of course impossible; after a time the tenants realise this, and then things quiet down again.

Tenants-at-will are not in a position to quarrel with their landlords, even if they are harshly treated, as they often are, especially in the Dhanni, where the Mairs and Kassars make hard landlords, being much attached to the *kankút* system referred to above; a half assets assessment based on the rents that these men realise on their own appraisement would be a conclusive answer to their complaints of over-assessment; but there is no accurate record of their takings, and although I have given orders for their entry in the crop inspection register, I doubt whether the record will be very accurate.

120. It is part of the duties of a Settlement Officer to compile a Code of Tribal Custom for his district; the materials for this compilation have been obtained, and are being arranged for publication in a separate volume.

\* Since this was written, Settlement Commissioner, in his No. 2412, dated 4th October 1901, to Commissioner Rawalpindi, has agreed in recommending the issue of instructions as above, with the addition that where the history of the tenancy shows it has been held for many years at a low rate of *málikána*, this should be considered a reason for granting only a small enhancement of the rate.



Khálsa and assigned  
revenue.

121. Of the total demand by the new assessments, Rs. 45,214, or 5 per cent., is assigned, as follows :—

	Rs.
Máfs and Jágirs ... ..	26,604
Ináms ... ..	18,610

The principal grantees are : (1) Sardár Mehr Singh, Chháchhí, &c, of Pachnand in Tallagang, Rs 6,629, (2) Sodhí Harí Singh, &c., of Haranpur in Pind Dádan Khan, Rs. 6,021; (3) Bhai Gurdit Singh of Kariála, in Chakwál, Rs. 1,116; (4) Pír Sahj Náth, of Tilla, in Jhelum, Rs. 1,029; (5) Pír Iláchí Náth, of Kot Sárang in Tallagang, Rs. 715.

It is noteworthy that none of these large grantees are zamíndárs in the ordinarily accepted meaning of the word; the largest of all are absentees.

122. The revenue assignments in this district are neither very numerous nor very important, but the enquiry into them has given an inordinate amount of trouble, chiefly because no complete English register has ever been prepared, while the files relating to them, whether English or Vernacular, if forthcoming at all, are generally incomplete; in a large number of cases no formal sanction at all is traceable. The enquiry at last settlement seems to have been very superficial. I have endeavoured to make the most of the scanty and confused materials available, and have submitted for orders registers of the doubtful cases; the cases not formally sanctioned are mostly petty grants, which have been enjoyed in good faith for nearly fifty years, and I have, therefore, recommended their continuance, even if the sanction be found insufficient.

This is the most convenient place to refer to the case of the assignees, who, in twenty-two instances, though not proprietors of the revenue-free land, realise produce rents from the cultivators as though they were. Under Financial Commissioner's published decisions No. 4 of 1888 and 14 of 1892, the assessment must be offered to the *landowner* and where (as in about half these cases) the *mafidár* has no proprietary or *quasi* proprietary status, he is entitled to take the revenue only. Settlement Commissioner in his No. 278, dated 11th February 1901, agreed with me that no action need be taken, unless one of the parties makes an application, which they have done in two or three cases.

123. The village note-book work in this settlement has been rather heavy; first we had to prepare English note-books, which did not exist before, and were required under the orders then in force; they were written up to 1896-1897, and then discontinued, on the introduction of the new Biglot books, though I have recorded my inspection notes in all of them. Next came the abstract note-books, commonly called *Gushwára Dehi*, and as soon as they had been brought up to date, and I had entered in them an abstract of my assessment notes\* from the English note-books, it was decided, in connection with the scheme for suspensions and remissions, to have a special form for this district, and they had to be done again; the whole of the work, including the initial entries in the Biglot books, was done in my English Office, and has been a constant burden.

124. It may be useful to note at what time the village inspections, which were based the assessment notes referred to above, were carried out in the various Tahsils; the Pind Dádan Khan Tahsil was seen between December and March 1896-1897; Chakwál and Tallagang between November 1897 and May 1898; and Jhelum between November 1898 and March 1899. The Jhelum and Pind Dádan Khan Tahsils were therefore seen in very bad seasons, and the other Tahsils in a good one. I felt myself under a considerable disadvantage in having to carry out these inspections at a time when crops were usually conspicuous by their absence, and many of the zamíndárs were away from their homes.

\* These abstract notes are confined almost entirely to matters bearing on the assessment; further information is in many cases to be found in the notes in the English books.

The inspection of a district of this character is a very laborious task, especially in the more remote tracts where progress is very slow and wearisome, with mere goat-tracks for paths.

125. At the beginning of settlement it was evident that the arrangement of the Patwáris' Circles stood in need of revision, and proposals on the subject were made and sanctioned in 1895-96; the arrangements have again been revised at the end of the settlement, sanction to the proposals made having been received with Junior Secretary to Financial Commissioner's No. 1732, dated 20th March 1901. I show below the establishment before and after these changes :—

ESTABLISHMENT AS IT STOOD IN	JHELUM.		PIND DADAN KHAN.		CHAKWAL.		TALLAGANG.		DISTRICT.	
	Patwáris.	Assistants.	Patwáris.	Assistants.	Patwáris.	Assistants.	Patwáris.	Assistants.	Patwáris.	Assistants.
1895-96 ... ..	63	4	58	4	61	4	41	3	223	15
1896-97 ... ..	71	2	62	2	67	2	42	2	242	8
1901-02 ... ..	73	4	63	4	71	4	42	3	249	15

In spite of the increase shown above the circles are still larger than usual, containing on the average 1,462 holdings, 6,469 survey numbers and 4,334 acres of cultivation, besides as a rule a large area of waste; they should not, however, prove too large for the proper discharge of the patwáris' ordinary duties.

The grading of the patwáris, and their pay, were revised at the same time as their circles; their pay at the beginning and end of settlement is shown below :—

1895.	1901.
20 per cent. on Rs. 13.	25 per cent. on Rs. 14.
22 „ „ 12.	50 „ „ 12.
58 „ „ 10.	25 „ „ 10.
Assistants, „ 6.	Assistants „ 8.

The total estimated annual expenditure from the Patwár Fund is Rs. 38,988 including contingencies, and the income at 6½ per cent., the new rate fixed will be about Rs. 57,126, giving an estimated annual surplus of Rs. 18,138.

The patwáris whom I found here on arrival were not very good, and I began to weed them out; but four or five of the first lot dismissed appealed to the Commissioner, and were all reinstated, and I had to confine my attentions to those who were willing to retire on a gratuity. By the time that circumstances became more favourable to the elimination of the undesirables, many of them had been drilled into making some show of work, and those who did not appear to be absolutely incapable were allowed to remain; this was a mistake; the inferior men have all had to go sooner or later, after hindering the work, and giving much trouble, and it would have been far better to get rid of them at the earliest opportunity. Of the 223 men who began the settlement, 12 have died, 82 have been dismissed or retired, and 9 have been promoted to kanúngo.

The 249 patwáris now on the staff include 184 Hindús, mostly Khatrís, and 65 Muhammadans. The number of zamíndár patwáris, though larger than it used to be, is smaller than I could wish; but good zamíndár candidates are difficult to get, and still more difficult to keep when got, unless

they are incapable ; it is not that there is any prejudice against employment as patwárá; we have one hereditary "Sultán" and quite a number of "Rájás" amongst them (any decent Gakkhar or Janjua is a "Rájá"), to say nothing of members of other good agricultural tribes : but the zamíndár who comes forward as a candidate is either the sort of boy who has with much difficulty compassed the passing of the Primary Examination ; or if better qualified he gets disgusted if he has to wait more than a year or so for an appointment, and betakes himself elsewhere ; though promising zamíndárs have been given places long before their turn.

There is no lack of candidates, though it is not always easy, as has been noted above, to get the kind of candidate who is wanted ; in the Tallagang Tahsil practically none come forward, except from Tallagang itself and the neighbouring village of Tehi, education being at a discount elsewhere ; the consequence is that nearly all the patwárá are of these two places, a fact which causes cliques and factions ; it is difficult, however, to see how this can be prevented ; men might be drafted in from other tahsils, but they would be discontented and would not work satisfactorily ; in Chakwál the village of Bhon tends to monopolise too many of the appointments, a tendency which should be watched.

The patwárá include 7 men who have passed the Entrance Examination, 83 Middle—, 105 Primary, and 54 with no educational qualifications, the last nearly all among the older men. They may be said to be all efficient enough to carry on their work fairly well ; I wish I could say as much for their honesty.

There are now 120 patwárá candidates : 57 are zamíndárs and 49 have passed the Middle or Entrance Examinations ; 62 have passed the Patwárá's Examination. There are too many candidates with low educational qualifications ; I have for some time past made it a rule not to admit Hindús, unless Middle passed, or possessing special claims, such as good work as *amíns* in the settlement : but such exceptions are numerous, and it is necessary to accept zamíndárs with nothing better than a "Primary Pass" to their credit.

As the good zamíndár patwárá is the best of all, so the bad zamíndár patwárá is the worst ; there is no doubt that as a class the Khatrís make the best patwárá, and I am by no means sure that the people do not prefer them to men of their own class.

126. The kánúngo establishment has also been strengthened by the addition of one field kánúngo in each Tahsil, except Tallagang ; Jhelum and Pind Dádan Khan have now 4 each, Chakwál 3, and Tallagang 2. In addition there is a district kánúngo and five office kánungos, one for each tahsil, and one for the Sadr ; proposals have been made for the appointment of an additional office kánúngo for the Sadr, but the proposal has not yet been sanctioned and its fate is doubtful.

The kánungo staff is efficient ; one or two of the weaker members of it will shortly retire. At the beginning of settlement it was practically a preserve for Khatrís, and they still hold 12 out of 19 posts, though two of them, it may be remarked, come of old landowning families, and do not admit that they are Khatrís ; only two of the men have passed the Entrance Examination.

127. The following is a list of the officers and officials who have received their Settlement training here :—

Assistant Commissioners	...	...	...	...	...	11
Extra Assistant Commissioner candidates	...	...	...	...	...	3
Tahsildar candidates	...	...	...	...	...	3
Naib Tahsildar candidate	...	...	...	...	...	23
Kánúngo candidates	...	...	...	...	...	70

in addition to miscellaneous persons such as Superintendents of Deputy Commissioner's Offices, one or two officials from Baluchistán, and so on.

An Assistant Commissioner's training was formerly almost confined to measurements, and the connected records ; the improved system of training now in force is in the main founded on that introduced in this settlement.

Assistant Commissioners are not left long enough in a settlement to be of any assistance nearly all other officials trained did a fair amount of useful

work in the later stages of their training, many of them subsequently receiving permanent appointments.

128. I owe much to the assistance of Lálá Bhawání Dás, who has held throughout the settlement the responsible post of Extra Assistant Settlement Officer, and on two occasions officiated for me for short periods; he has discharged the onerous duties of his office with unfailing zeal, ability and integrity, and his advice on all questions of settlement routine has from first to last afforded me most valuable assistance. I am glad to be able to add that his services have been rewarded by the grant of the title of Rai Bahádar.

Notice of officers.

Of the executive Tahsildars, Munshi Nihál Chand had the most settlement work to do, as there was no Settlement Tahsildar during his four years' tenure of office in the Tallagang Tahsil; his physical infirmities interfered to some extent with his personal activity, but his arrangements for and control of the work were good, and as he had his ordinary executive and judicial business to attend to also, the result is creditable to him. In Chakwál Pandit Srí Kishan had little leisure to spare from his heavy executive duties, but what he did he did well, and he has given all the assistance in his power; his honesty and administrative ability are well-known to the authorities. M. Nawab Khán in Jhelum would be an excellent Tahsildar, if he could only display a little more energy; I cannot say that the amount of settlement work done by him is large, but he has given assistance, and his great local knowledge has been of much use to me. Chaudhri Sultán Ahmad is also deserving of mention.

Of the three Settlement Tahsildars, Lálá Káhan Chand is easily first; in ability, energy, honesty and powers of control he possesses qualifications much above the average, and I consider him well qualified for the post of Extra Assistant Settlement Officer; his services have not gone unrewarded; he has been accepted as an Extra Assistant Commissioner candidate, and leaves in a few days on promotion as Assistant Settlement Officer, Báltistán. Bábu R. C. Singha also is a good officer, very hard-working and honest, with good powers of control: the work in his Tahsil suffered somewhat owing to his too early transfer; he, too, has been accepted as an Extra Assistant Commissioner candidate. Kázi Mazhar Hussain is a hard-working and capable Settlement Official, who has held charge of a difficult Tahsil, and has done well throughout; he has a good manner with the people and the work done under his supervision is satisfactory.

Of the Naib Tahsildars Misr Híra Nand, (now Tahsildar in Pind Dádan Khan on well-earned promotion), has shown himself thoroughly trustworthy and very industrious; both as Tahsildar and Naib Tahsildar he has devoted great attention to his settlement work; and is in these respects the best Naib Tahsildar we had here; Munshi Mitba Mal, who has served all through in Tallagang has also done thoroughly well; he has fair ability, works very hard, and has served for four or five years past without a complaint in a tract where complaints are readily made; of the other Naib Tahsildars, S. Muhammad Hussain Khan and Munshi Amír Singh deserve mention; the former has been promoted to the post of Superintendent of the Deputy Commissioner's Vernacular Office; a similar post was obtained at a comparatively early stage by Lálá Desraj, who is one of the best Naib Tahsildars we have had here.

Of the Settlement Naib Tahsildars, formerly called Deputy Superintendents, M. Hussain and Sheikh Mehndi Hassan were promoted to Tahsildarships in other districts for the good work they did here at the beginning of the settlement; similar promotion was obtained at a later stage by Pandit Kanwar Kishan and Pír Guláb Shah; while Lálá Charan Dás left the settlement on appointment as Superintendent, Deputy Commissioner's Vernacular Office, Gujrát, some years ago. All these are good men in their different ways, Charan Dás, M. Hussain, and Kanwar Kishan being the best. M. Alí Muhammad is another good Deputy Superintendent; though rather easy-going and now getting old, he is reliable and gets good work out of his men, and is popular alike with the zamíndárs and his subordinates. He is now officiating as Settlement Tahsildar in Hazára, but should be employed in the plains.

Lála Kishan Chand also has done much good work in the last three years. Of the men more recently appointed Munshi Rám Labhaya is the best. In conclusion, I would express my satisfaction with my Head Clerk, Lála Mukand Rám, whose industry and honesty are creditable to him; after a year or two of approved service in the field, I see no reason why he should not make a good Settlement Tahsildar, for he has sufficient ability and possesses good powers of control as far as his management of the English Office enables me to judge. My acknowledgments are also due to my Vernacular Office Deputy Superintendent, Munshi Brij Lál; he combines more than the common ability with thorough honesty, and a good knowledge of all branches of the work of a settlement, and has the further advantage of being well acquainted with the routine of a Deputy Commissioner's Office. He is well qualified for the post of Settlement Tahsildar.

## CHAPTER VII.—FINANCIAL RESULTS.

129. The cost of the Settlement operations up to the end of June 1901, as shown in Appendix F., is Rs. 4,90,672; I have to remain in the district for three or four months more, with a small establishment, to report on the introduction of the new assessments next harvest, and to write the revised addition of District Gazetteer; the estimated additional cost is Rs. 5,330, giving a total of Rs. 4,96,002, from which should be deducted a sum of Rs. 4,322, to be realized from jágirdárs, leaving Rs. 4,91,680\* as the net cost. The increase in the demand due to the re-assessment being Rs. 1,87,669 per annum, the cost of the settlement will be recovered in two and-a-half years from the introduction of the new *jamás*, probably in Kharíf 1901.

This, however, is reckoning on the gross assessment; paragraph 121 shows the amount of *khálsa* and assigned revenue; the increase in the former alone is Rs. 1,81,382 per annum, and if assigned revenue be excluded, the cost of the Settlement will be recovered in two and three-quarter years.

130. The probable revenue realisable for the next five years is shown in the following statement; some of the items, however, do not admit of an accurate forecast:—

Financial year.	Land revenue proper (khálsa).	Increase owing to protective pattas.	Alluvion and diluvion.	Total.	Canal revenue (water-rates).
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
1901-02 ... ..	8,68,794	14	—1,339	8,67,469	2,000
1902-03 ... ..	8,69,469	177	—1,339	8,68,307	2,250
1903-04 ... ..	8,70,557	246	—1,339	8,69,464	2,500
1904-05 ... ..	8,71,964	76	—1,339	8,70,701	2,600
1905-06 ... ..	8,73,301	429	—1,339	8,72,391	3,000

\* It would not be unreasonable to set against the cost of settlement the amount credited as mutation fees Rs. 40,706, as these are mainly due to the Settlement operations.

W. S. TALBOT,

Dated 31st July 1901.

Settlement Officer.

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## APPENDICES.

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# APPENDIX A.

Average outturn per acre in sérs in all Assessment Circles of the Jhelum District.

1	1 (a)	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
Harvest.	Crops.	Soil.	JHELUM.				PIND DADAN KHAN.				CHAKWAL.		TALLA-GANG.	REMARKS.
			River Bank.	Maidan.	Khuddar.	Pabbi.	Hilla.	Phaphra.	Thal.	River Bank.	Lundi Patti.	Dhami.		
Kharif Crops.	Rice ... ..	Sailáb ... ..	400	...	...	...	...	...	...	400	...	...	...	
	Irrigated ... ..	...	400	400	360	400	380	340	320	420	440	440	...	
	Sailáb ... ..	...	280	240	...	...	...	200	240	...	...	...	...	
	Hail and bārání I ... ..	...	320	340	300	320	280	200	280	...	...	...	...	
	Bájrā ... ..	Maira ... ..	200	200	160	180	160	140	160	180	180	180	140	
	Rakkar ... ..	...	140	140	120	120	120	100	100	120	120	120	100	
	Irrigated ... ..	...	500	500	460	460	600	440	440	480	520	540	520	
	Sailáb ... ..	...	440	400	...	...	...	400	400	420	...	...	...	
	Maize ... ..	Hail and bārání I ... ..	440	420	400	400	440	360	300	360	360	360	360	
	Maira and rakkar ... ..	...	300	300	280	280	300	280	200	240	200	200	200	
	Irrigated ... ..	...	220	220	220	220	220	220	220	220	220	220	220	
	Sailáb ... ..	...	140	140	120	140	140	140	140	140	140	140	140	
	Pulses (múng, moth and másh). ... ..	Hail and bārání I ... ..	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	
	Maira ... ..	...	80	80	80	80	80	80	80	80	80	80	80	
	Rakkar ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
	Irrigated ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
	Sugarcane ... ..	Sailáb ... ..	Rs. 75	Rs. 75	...	...	Rs. 150	...	Rs. 75	Rs. 75	...	...	...	Rupees per acre.
	Irrigated ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
	Sailáb ... ..	...	240	240	240	220	220	240	200	240	220	240	240	
	Irrigated ... ..	...	200	160	140	140	120	160	120	200	...	...	...	
	Cotton ... ..	Hail and bārání I ... ..	120	120	100	120	100	120	100	120	100	100	80	
	Maira ... ..	...	60	60	40	60	60	80	60	80	40	60	40	
	Rakkar ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
	Irrigated ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
	Garden crops ... ..	Sailáb ... ..	Rs. 25	Rs. 32	Rs. 32	Rs. 24	Rs. 32	...	Rs. 15	Rs. 20	...	...	...	Rupees per acre.
	Hail and bārání I ... ..	...	15	15	...	...	...	...	...	15	...	...	...	
	Maira and rakkar ... ..	...	10	10	10	10	...	...	...	10	...	...	...	
	Irrigated ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	

OTHER KHARIF CROPS.—A value per acre equal to the value of an acre of bájrā will usually be fair. Jowár is usually grown as charri and used for fodder.





# APPENDIX B.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
Tahsil.	Assessment Circle.	CLASS OF LAND.	Average harvested area, in acres.	Deducted as fodder, in acres.	Gross value of produce less fodder, in rupees.	DEDUCTIONS FOR KAMINS' DUES.	Amount, in rupees.	Balance value of divisible produce, in rupees.	Per cent. on column 9.	Amount, in rupees (net assets).	Half-net assets assessment (half amount shown in previous column).	Half-assets rates per acre harvested.	Area cultivated, in acres.	Half-net assets rates per acre (column 12 divided by column 14).	Assessment actually imposed, in rupees.	Percentage of column 16 on column 12.
						Per cent. on previous column.						Rs. a. p.				
	River Bank.	Irrigated ... Sailab ... Hail and barani I ... Maira and rakkar ...	1,154 5,064 2,710 15,402	33 74 94 562	24,938 53,413 33,352 1,23,971	14½ 9½ 9 9	3,616 5,074 3,002 11,157	21,322 48,339 30,350 1,12,814	50 50 50 50	10,061 24,170 15,175 56,407	5,331 12,085 7,588 28,203	4 9 11 2 6 2 2 12 10 1 13 4	788 8,307 3,096 16,745	6 12 3 1 7 3 2 7 3 1 10 11	...	...
		Total	24,330	763	2,35,674	...	22,849	2,12,825	...	1,06,413	53,207	2 3 0	28,936	1 13 5	39,818	74.8
	Maidan.	Irrigated ... Sailab ... Hail and barani I ... Maira and rakkar ...	1,298 40 8,196 50,535	44 ... 270 1,089	25,614 426 1,03,688 4,23,306	14½ ... 9 9	3,714 ... 9,332 38,098	21,900 426 94,356 3,85,208	50 50 50 50	10,950 213 47,178 1,92,604	5,475 107 23,589 96,302	4 7 4 2 10 10 2 14 1 1 14 6	1,005 56 7,604 63,109	5 7 2 1 14 7 3 1 8 1 8 5	...	...
		Total	59,999	2,303	5,53,034	...	51,144	5,01,890	...	2,56,945	1,25,473	2 1 6	71,774	1 12 0	87,686	69.9
	Khuddar.	Irrigated ... Sailab ... Hail and barani I ... Maira and rakkar ...	983 23 7,737 42,735	62 ... 204 1,148	21,105 239 90,659 2,80,937	14½ ... 8½ 8½	3,060 ... 7,746 23,880	18,045 339 82,953 2,57,957	50 50 50 50	9,022 120 41,176 1,28,529	4,511 60 20,738 64,264	4 9 5 2 9 9 2 10 11 1 8 1	607 83 8,347 62,924	7 6 11 0 11 7 2 7 9 1 0 4	...	...
		Total	51,478	1,414	3,92,940	...	34,616	3,58,294	...	1,79,147	89,573	1 11 10	71,961	1 3 11	65,549	73.2
	Pabbi.	Irrigated ... Hail and barani I ... Maira and rakkar ...	104 3,976 20,192	2 140 646	2,048 46,184 1,46,027	14½ 8½ 8½	297 3,926 12,412	1,751 42,258 1,33,615	50 50 50	876 21,129 66,807	438 10,564 33,404	4 3 5 2 10 6 1 10 6	37 4,050 29,394	11 13 5 2 9 8 1 2 2	...	...
		Total	24,272	788	1,94,259	...	16,635	1,77,624	...	38,812	44,406	1 13 3	33,400	1 5 3	37,743	85



## APPENDIX C.

## Rules regarding Di-alluvion Assessments and the Assessment of Water-mills.

## INSTRUCTIONS FOR THE ASSESSMENT OF LANDS AFFECTED BY THE RIVER JHELUM.

A.—*Diluvion or deterioration.*

1. When by river action land assessed as cultivated is carried away or rendered unfit for cultivation, or land assessed as pasture is carried away or rendered unfit for grazing, the assessment thereon shall be remitted.

2. Land which was assessed as cultivated at settlement, or has since been assessed at the full rate, should not ordinarily have its assessment lowered, unless it is found that such land has been injured by the action of the river; in that case it shall be treated as new alluvion, and dealt with in accordance with Rules 5 to 11.

3. In the case of land assessed at irrigated rates, when the source of irrigation is permanently destroyed by the action of the river, the assessment will be remitted, and the land will be dealt with as new alluvion in accordance with these rules.

4. Where the assessing officer finds that any considerable area of land, which was assessed at settlement or since at the full *sailáb* rate has, owing to a change in the course of the river or from other causes, become out of reach of the ordinary river floods, and has for that reason ceased to be cultivated as *sailáb* land, he shall submit a report on the circumstances of the case to the Collector for orders. The Collector shall then, if necessary, redistribute the fixed assessment over the existing cultivation, or having, if advisable, suspended the current demand, report the case for sanction to put the whole area under a fluctuating assessment, or to reduce the fixed assessment of the estate.

B.—*Alluvion or improvement.*

5. (i) New cultivated land added by alluvion;

(ii) Land uncultivated at settlement but since brought under cultivation;

(iii) Land cultivated at settlement which has since had its assessment reduced in accordance with rule (2) (3) or (4), but has again improved in quality; and

(iv) Land cultivated at settlement but assessed at lower rates than the maximum rates stated in Rule 12, which has since improved in quality;

shall ordinarily be assessed at the maximum rate stated in rule 11 when growing first class crops; and at half that rate when growing second class crops.

NOTE. - First class crops are: sugarcane, maize, cotton, wheat, vegetables (other than fodder), tobacco.  
Second class crops are all other crops.

6. No assessment shall be imposed on crops which are likely to return less than the seed sown; and if the outturn is very poor, *e.g.*, not more than twice the seed sown, half of the maximum rate shall be imposed for that year.

7. Land which under the above rule has been assessed at less than the maximum rate shall in subsequent years be assessed at the maximum rate, so soon as the class and character of the crop shall justify such imposition.

8. New uncultivated land added by alluvion, which is fit for grazing; unassessed land which has by the action of the river become fit for grazing; and assessed cultivated land, which has by river action ceased to be fit for cultivation, but is fit for grazing, shall ordinarily be assessed at the rate of one anna per acre:

Provided that when the produce is very good or valuable, *e.g.*, near towns, the assessing officer may for reasons recorded assess at 4 annas per acre, or at any intermediate rate:

Provided also, that blocks of grazing land less than 50 acres in extent shall not be liable to assessment, unless for special reasons to be recorded by the assessing officer.

NOTE.—Land bearing a well established growth of *palchi* may at the discretion of the assessing officer be treated as "fit for grazing" for the purposes of this rule.

9. The classification of land for assessment under these rules should not be too minute; if a survey number is not very large it will usually be best to apply a single rate to the whole number, though the same class of crop may not be grown in the whole of it.

10. In calculating the revenue all fractions of a *kanál*, of ten *marlás* or under, will be neglected; and all fractions of a *kanál* over 10 *marlás* will be counted as a *kanál*.

11. The maximum rates referred to in rules 5 to 7 are as follows :—

Tahsil.						Circle.				Rate.		
										<i>Per acre.</i>		
										Rs. a. p.		
Jhelum	...	...	...	...	...	All circles	...	...	...	1	8	0
Pind Dadan Khan	...	...	...	...	...	Do.	...	...	...	1	12	0

**Rules applicable to the villages affected by the Sawan River and Hill Torrents as detailed in Schedule A attached.**

12. In these villages measurements will ordinarily be made only in the year when the quadrennial attestation of the village takes place, provided that the Collector may order that the lands in any estate be measured and assessed in any other year, if changes have occurred in the estate, or in individual holdings, of sufficient importance to render this course desirable. Early in October the Tahsildar will send to the Collector a list of estates not coming under quadrennial attestation in which he proposes to make measurements, explaining the reasons for his proposal. The Collector will return the list with his orders thereon to the Tahsildar.

13. When by the action of a torrent land assessed as cultivated is carried away or rendered unfit for cultivation, or land assessed as uncultivated is carried away or rendered unprofitable, the assessment thereon shall be remitted.

14. When cultivated land has been materially injured by the action of a torrent, but is still capable of cultivation, half the assessment imposed at settlement may be remitted subject to the re-imposition of the full rate if the land again becomes of average quality.

15. Rule 3 of the rules applicable to lands affected by the River Jhelum applies also to cases of similar injury to irrigated lands by torrent action.

16. Land which was uncultivated at settlement, but has since become capable of cultivation owing to the action of a torrent shall be assessed at the full village assessment rate on land of the same class; or at half that rate if of inferior quality: provided that the above rates shall not be imposed unless the land is actually cultivated.

17. Land of inferior quality assessed under the above rule at half the full rate may be raised to the full rate in subsequent years, if the assessing officer considers that it has become of average quality.

18. Land unassessed at settlement, which has since become fit for grazing owing to the action of a torrent, may be assessed as pasture, at any rate not exceeding annas 4 per acre.

NOTE.—Land bearing a well established growth of *serut* grass may be treated as "fit for grazing" for the purpose of this rule.

**Rules applicable to the villages of Sar Kalan and Matan Kalan in the Hill Circle of the Pind Dadan Khan Tahsil.**

19. (1) The assessment shall stand on the fixed rent-roll as announced at settlement, relief being given when necessary in the form of remission of fixed land revenue.

(2) No land which was left unassessed at settlement shall be liable to assessment until the term of settlement expires.

(3) At the time of the kharif *girdawari* every year the patwari will make an extract from his field map showing the limits of the lake as then existing, and will draw up a field register in the form of an extract from his field inspection register, showing all fields assessed at settlement, which have failed to produce a crop owing to the overflow of the lake. These extracts he will correct and bring up to date at the time of the rabi inspection; and he will then draw up from them a register of holdings in the form of the *jamabandi* showing for each holding the area of land which was assessed at settlement, and which has, owing to the overflow of the lake, failed to produce a crop either in the kharif or rabi harvest, with the amount of assessment due on such land.

(4) After check by an Assistant Collector report will be made in the prescribed form for the remission of the land revenue assessed at settlement on all land which owing to the overflow of the lake has failed to produce a crop either in the kharif or rabi harvest.

**Rules applicable to villages of the Phaphra, Thal and River Bank Circles of the Pind Dadan Khan Tahsil, which are subject to damage by *kallar shor*.**

20. When any land assessed as cultivated at settlement becomes unfit for cultivation owing to the action of *kallar shor*, the assessment thereon may be remitted: provided that no such remission shall be granted within two years after the harvest in which the land was last sown.

21. If land of which the assessment has been remitted under rule 20 again becomes cultivated, the full amount assessed thereon at settlement shall again become payable; but land of very inferior quality may be assessed at half-rates at the discretion of the assessing officer.

22. When in the case of land assessed at settlement as irrigated, the well from which it was irrigated is rendered permanently useless owing to *kallar shor*, the assessment thereon may be remitted, and the land will then be re-assessed at the rate imposed at settlement on unirrigated land of the same class in the same village: provided that no reduction of assessment shall be granted under this rule within two years after the harvest in which the well was last used for irrigation.

23. If land of which the assessment has been reduced under rule 22 becomes again irrigated, the full amount assessed thereon at settlement shall again become payable.

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### Rules relating to the assessment of Water-mills.

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24. These rules do not apply to water-mills situated on Government property; the control and assessment of such mills will rest as heretofore with the officer responsible for the management of the *rakh* or other Government land in which they are situated.

25. Mills existing at settlement have been assessed to land revenue, which will be treated as part of the *jama* of the village, will be realized through the *lambardár*, and will be liable to the addition of the ordinary cesses.

26. Mill assessments are liable to suspension and remission in the same way as other land revenue. The assessment may be permanently terminated by order of the Collector at the close of the financial year; but no assessment should be so terminated until the mill building and its gear have been permanently dismantled, and the owner has given satisfactory reasons for the abandonment of the mill.

27. Any person wishing to start a new mill must apply in writing for permission to do so to the Tahsildar, who should grant permission as a matter of course, after satisfying himself that no existing rights are likely to suffer from the construction of the new Mill. Doubtful cases will be referred to the Collector for orders.

28. The assessment of newly started mills will be carried out by an Assistant Collector, acting under the orders of the Collector, as in the case of di-alluvion assessments. The assessment will be fixed chiefly with regard to the assessment imposed at settlement on other mills with similar advantages in the same neighbourhood. Failing this guide, regard will be had to the situation of the new mill with reference to markets, &c., the number of months during the year that the water supply is available, the daily output of flour (as shown by practical trial and by the dimensions and slope of the mill-sludge), regularity of supply of grain, and the like.

29. The assessment imposed on a newly started mill shall be subject to a reduction of one-half for the first three years after it begins to work. But if any mill is found to be working without permission, no reduction will be allowed under this rule, the arrears of the assessment in full being realised from the owner with effect from the harvest in which the mill was erected.

30. A register of mills in Form H attached will be kept up by the *wásil báki* *navis* of each tahsil.

Each Mill will be shown by the *patwári* under a separate entry in the *khasra girdáwari*; in the column for proprietor and tenant he will enter the owner and miller, and in the crop column he will note whether the mill is in working order or otherwise.

Mills situated within the village boundary will be given a field number and will be entered in their proper place in the *khasra*. Those of which the situation is variable, such as those in the bed of the river Jhelum, will be attached to some convenient estate to which they will remain attached regardless of temporary changes in their situation. Such mills also will be shown with a separate entry for each at the end of the *khasra girdáwari*, the words "In river-bed" being entered in the column for field number.

Mills will also be entered in the *jamabandi* of the village to which they are attached, being placed at the end after the entries relating to the *shámilát*, each Mill or group of Mills similarly owned being given a separate *jamabandi* number.

In the years when no *jamabandi* is prepared, the *patwári* will be required to file in the tahsil an extract in the *jamabandi* form, showing the entries relating to mills, and all changes regarding them which have taken place since the last *jamabandi* was prepared.

## SCHEDULE.

*List of villages affected by torrents referred to in rule 13.*

1	2	3	4	5
Tahsil.	Assessment Circle.	No. Hadbast.	Name of village.	Name of torrent.
JHELUM ...	Khuddar ...	100	Sohan ... ..	Bakrála.
		109	Jhang Chak ... ..	Kahán.
		110	Bhogi " ... ..	Do.
		122	Sultán " ... ..	Do.
		123	Thapla ... ..	Do.
		124	Dhamála Mai Dholan ... ..	Do.
		126	Nára Jalál ... ..	Do.
		127	Domeli ... ..	Do.
		128	Jáhli ... ..	Do.
		150	Kotal Kund ... ..	Bunha.
		152	Hasnot ... ..	Do.
		166	Bhandar ... ..	Do.
		169	Baragawáh ... ..	Khanúr.
		151	Bahitha ... ..	Bunha.
		180	Chak Mahmuda ... ..	Do.
		181	Dhok Biddar ... ..	Do.
		185	Pind Sawikka ... ..	Do.
	Maidén ...	187	Núrpur ... ..	Do.
		188	Haripur ... ..	Do.
		189	Nakka Khurd ... ..	Do.
		191	" Kálan ... ..	Do.
		192	Khaláspur ... ..	Do.
		193	Chakri ... ..	Do.
		197	Rajrúr ... ..	Do.
		200	Kotli Sayadán ... ..	Do.
		205	Nakki ... ..	Do.
		206	Jagta ... ..	Do.
		207	Mamián ... ..	Do.
		209	Nathwála ... ..	Tundi.
		215	Khái Kuliya ... ..	Kahán.
		216	" Kotli ... ..	Do.
		221	Gurah Ahmad ... ..	Do.
		222	Chak Isa ... ..	Do.
		223	" Miána ... ..	Do.
		224	Chhappar ... ..	Do.
		225	Lota ... ..	Do.
		229	Bhathia ... ..	Langarpurwála.
		230	Khokhar Malwána ... ..	Do.
		231	Begpur ... ..	Do.
		232	Bhalola ... ..	Do. and Kahán.
		233	Baddo ... ..	Do.
		235	Malot ... ..	Kahán.
		241	Thathi Mughlán ... ..	Langarpurwála.
		242	Gujjarpur ... ..	Do.
		243	Kuntrila ... ..	Do.
		245	Gharmála ... ..	Do.
		255	Kála Khás ... ..	Báláwála.
		256	Thathi Gujrán ... ..	Ráthianwála.
		258	Bála ... ..	Pabbíwála.
		259	Bhutiál ... ..	Do.
		317	Mehta Lohesar ... ..	Taimparawála.
		318	Said Husain ... ..	Do.
		319	Shahwassan ... ..	Do.
		320	Bihána ... ..	Kahán.
		323	Garhmahal ... ..	Do.
		337	Chak Almás ... ..	Do.
		339	Mutiál ... ..	Do.
		340	Kalri ... ..	Do.
		341	Badagrán ... ..	Do.
		343	Chokiám ... ..	Do.
		347		Gurah Kumhárán ... ..	Do.
		348		Bodla ... ..	Do.
		349		Kutiam ... ..	Do.
		357		Jagísi ... ..	Taimpurawála.
		359		Tamma Ajáib ... ..	Do.
		360		Muftián ... ..	Do.
CHAKWAL ...	River Bank ...	437	Bagga ... ..	Kahán.
		441	Rariála Bírám ... ..	Trotwála.
		449	Nawánlok ... ..	Sháh Rohru.
		452	Bhimbar ... ..	Do.
	Dhanni ...	1	Hásil ... ..	Sawán.
		3	Warwál ... ..	Do.
		7	Níla ... ..	Do. and Paliháran.

x

**SCHEDULE—concluded.**

1	2	3	4	5
Tahsil.	Assessment Circle.	No. Hadbast.	Name of village.	Name of torrent.
CHAKWAL ...	Dhanni ...	8	Dullah ... ..	Sauj, Bhagne, Karái, Warala.
		9	Thanil Kamál ... ..	Sauj, Bhagne.
		10	Bhikhári Khurd ... ..	Bhagne, Karái.
		12	Narang ... ..	Sokían, do.
		18	Mangwál ... ..	Bhagne.
		29	Jabbi ... ..	Palíhárán.
		40	Múlwál ... ..	Khanála.
		41	Nain Sukh ... ..	Dharáb, Ghabír.
		42	Dheri Anwal ... ..	Dharáb.
		43	Sidbar ... ..	Khanála.
		44	Dharábi ... ..	Dharáb.
		75	Kálújo ... ..	Sauj.
		78	Muríd ... ..	Do.
		79	Bhon ... ..	Do.
		94	Dhídwál ... ..	Bunha.
		99	Rabál ... ..	Do.
	Lundi Patti ...	106	Kudlathi ... ..	Kulián.
		107	Bhín ... ..	Do.
		127	Janga ... ..	Sarúli.
		129	Sadwál ... ..	Do.
		130	Dhalál ... ..	Do.
		131	Tatrái ... ..	Do.
		169	Bádsháhán ... ..	Kulián.
		175	Chohán ... ..	Do.
		176	Lohesar ... ..	Do.
		177	Hasola ... ..	Do.
		178	Dhoda ... ..	Do.
		179	Langah ... ..	Do.
		221	Khánpur ... ..	Bunha.
		224	Hún ... ..	Do.
		230	Mohra Maliarán ... ..	Do.
		232	Mohra Mast ... ..	Do.
		233	Chhabbri ... ..	Do.
		234	Kánpur ... ..	Do.
		235	Chak Jharrare ... ..	Do.
		250	Khotian ... ..	Do.

**H.—Register of Water-mills working in Tahsil.**

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Assessment Circle.	VILLAGE.		Serial No. of Mill.	No. Khasra.	Name of owner of Mill.	Name of Miller.	ASSESSMENT.			Signature of Tahsildar.	Remarks in subsequent years as to suspension or remission of demand, or termination of assessment.
	No. Hadbast.	Name.					Amount.	By whom payable.	Name of lambar-dár responsible for collection.		

NOTE.—1. Enter the mills at present working, at a separate opening for each assessment circle, leaving sufficient space at the end of the entries for each circle to provide for the entry of mills subsequently started.

2. Two entries to be made on each page.

3. As soon as an application for permission to start a new mill is granted, columns 1 to 6 of the register should be filled in, the completion of the other columns being deferred until orders on the assessment have been received. The entry will then be signed by the Tahsildar.

4. Should the ownership, &c., of a mill be changed, the entries in the columns affected should be amended, and a note added in the Remarks column.

*Procedure Rules applicable to Di-alluvion Assessments in the Rawalpindi Division.*

1. In each year as soon as the river has fallen to its ordinary cold weather level which will ordinarily be by the 1st of December, the patwári will go over the part of the estate liable to be affected by river action, and note the areas carried away by the river or damaged by sand, and the areas newly brought under cultivation, and will make measurements in order to bring to record the altered areas, and to enable the Collector to ascertain the revenue to be remitted on lands deteriorated, or to be assessed on those which have improved. The patwári will already have noticed when doing his *kharif girdáwari* what changes have taken place, and it is important that he should enter carefully the crops grown on land which will be the subject of assessment at the di-alluvion enquiry, and that the kánúngo should carefully check these entries.

2. If changes have occurred in a village of which the boundaries are fixed, the total area will not be altered and the only result will be an alteration in the area of each class of land. If changes have occurred in a village in which the deep-stream rule is in force the total area of the village will be changed as well as the area of one or more classes of land, and the patwári will have to make measurements to ascertain the extent of the changes.

3. He should first make a tracing, from his map of the village, of the part of the area liable to be affected by river action, and will show on this the area—

- (1) lost by diluvion ;
- (2) thrown out of cultivation by water or sand ;
- (3) gained by alluvion ;
- (4) brought into cultivation for the first time ; or
- (5) liable to have its assessment increased.

It will seldom be necessary to show the whole *bet* in this tracing, but on the other hand he should not be satisfied with merely showing the actual fields affected. He should also show all fields which actually touch any field which has undergone alteration so as to indicate at once the position in the whole village map of the fields in which change of area has occurred, or in which the assessment has to be revised. These tracings will be on unbacked mapping sheets. A half or quarter mapping sheet may be used if this will suffice to show all that is required.

4. The simplest case is where the only change is loss by diluvion or where land has been thrown out of cultivation by water or sand. Here the patwári will by off-sets from the nearest squares plot on his di-alluvion tracing for the year, the position of the edge of the river or the line up to which the remaining cultivation extends, and will show it by a thin blue line at both ends of which he will write "*Burdi San 1893-94,*" or whatever the year may be. If whole fields have been carried away his last year's *jama-bandi* will give him the area of each. If only a part, then he will chain what remains and so ascertain the area washed away. Where there has been no other change except diluvion, he may show it on his last year's tracing and there will be no necessity for making a fresh tracing each year.

5. Where there has been a gain in total area by alluvion (which will only occur in those villages which follow the deep-stream rule) the patwári will have to produce the squares of the village so as to take in the land gained and will by off-sets lay down the new boundary and the present position of the deep-stream on his di-alluvion tracing. He will indicate the new land acquired by drawing a red line between it and the older land and writing at each end the word "*barámad*" and the year in which the new area was acquired. The field numbers to be given to the new area should start from the last number in use in the old map, the highest numbers being given to those fields nearest the river. If the new land is all uncultivated the limits of the survey numbers should correspond with the limits of the squares. In case these square survey numbers should be divided up into cultivated fields in subsequent years, when it would be necessary to number them according to Revenue Rule 82, sufficient room should be left in the page of the *khasra girdáwari* in which they appear. The patwári will in indicating the deep-stream write at each end the words "*dhár-kalán*" with the year.

6. In villages with fixed boundaries, in which land which was before uncultivated has been brought under cultivation, he will on the ground reproduce the squares covering the part of the village affected and will plot in by off-sets from them the new fields which have been formed, numbering them according to the system laid down in Revenue Rule No. 82. If this can be done on the last year's di-alluvion map without producing confusion, he need not prepare a fresh tracing, but in other cases he should prepare a fresh copy of the tracing. Whenever at the end of the fourth year special attestation is carried out a fresh tracing will have to be prepared by the patwári for his own use. When the new land has been assessed, he should colour all land assessed at the "*nisf parta*" by drawing a line of green dots round the fields. When it has reached the "*kámil*" rate the green dots should be altered and run together into a continuous green line.



7. As the measurements proceed the patwári will prepare the following papers :—

*Form A* ("Khasrah Diluvion ") will only be prepared in those villages which follow the deep-stream rule and for diluvion only.

*Form B* (" Khasrah Alluvion ") will also be prepared for similar villages for alluvion.

*Form C* (" Khasrah ") showing change of condition (*tabdil haisiyat*) is prepared for all changes in the character of the soil of all villages whether following the deep-stream rule, or not. Diluvion caused by water or sand in villages with fixed boundaries will be shown here, as it is not really lost but only changed in character. All fields which are assessed at less than the *kámil* rate will also be shown here, but in the case of these the calculation showing how the area has been arrived at need not be repeated. The columns 15 and 16 will not be filled up until the Tahsildar has made his visit and has formed an opinion as to the assessment.

8. The kánúngo will check the measurements and the statements which the patwári has filled up, and will satisfy himself that the patwári has included in his maps and field book all land which should be included.

9. The Tahsildar or his Naib (Assistant Collector of the second grade) will satisfy himself that the maps and papers have been correctly prepared by testing them on the spot and will pass orders as to the classes of land, rates and revenue, after inspecting the fields. He will have columns 12 and 13 of Khasrah B and 15 and 16 of Khasrah C filled in before him and will give the patwári orders to prepare the village abstract, *Form F*. He will at the same time cause the patwári to make the necessary entries in the register of fields assessed below the full rates, *Form E*. The patwári will then have to prepare a duplicate of his di-alluvion tracing for the year and duplicate forms of the diluvion field book, alluvion field book and village abstract, and the Tahsildar will see that these too are completed, where necessary. The Tahsildar will add a brief note to the file explaining in narrative form the changes which have occurred and his assessment proposals and their results. The register *Form E* will remain with the patwári who will give the Tahsildar an extract from it showing those numbers only of which the assessment has been changed during the current year. The Tahsildar will then sign the maps, field books, and village abstracts and the register, and will take over the Government copies of the three former and the extracts from the register.

10. Final orders on each di-alluvion file can only be passed by an officer exercising the powers of a Collector; but the Collector of the District usually deposes an Assistant Collector of the 1st grade to finally test the measurement and assessment proposed before he passes his final confirming order. This officer's duty is to decide boundary disputes, where newly acquired land is claimed as forming a part of two or more adjoining estates, and to satisfy himself as to the amount by which the assessment should be increased or diminished. If any corrections are made by his order, they will be made at once in the Government copies, and the patwári will be ordered to correct his own copies. The patwári will then prepare in duplicate a *khewat* showing the result of the new assessment, *Form D*, and will forward both copies to the Tahsildar through the kánúngo. The Tahsildar will see that the *khewat* agrees with the orders, and signing both copies will file one with the record and return the other to the patwári. The latter will embody the new figures in future *báchh* papers and will give a "*furd*" showing the result, free of charge, to each *khewatdár* concerned.

11. The whole file regarding changes in assessment due to river action will be prepared on Lucknow paper of A quality, stitched at the back in book form, not tacked together at one corner. The maps will be placed in an envelope the full size of the file and will not be folded more than twice.

12. The district statement of changes in assessment due to river action will be prepared in *Form G* (*tahsilwár*) as prescribed by the Revenue Circulars (Correction Slip 321).

13. Cases of destructive inundation should not be treated under these rules as by them the growing crops only and not the land are injured. Reports concerning them should be made in *Form A* or *B* appended to Circular 31.

FORM A.  
Khasrah of Diluvion.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	1	
Serial No.	Khasrah No.	No. of holding.	Owner, in brief.	Tenant, in brief.	FORMER.			LAND REMAINING.			LAND LOST.			REMARKS.
					Area in kanals.	Kind of soil.	Area calculation.	Area.	Kind of soil.	Area.	Kind of soil.	Rate.		

Note.—1. This form will apply in villages which have not got a fixed boundary. In villages with fixed boundaries all changes will be shown in Form C.  
2. The total of the area shown in column 11 will represent the extent to which the area of the village has been reduced by diluvion.

FORM B.  
Khasrah of Alluvion.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
Serial No.	KHASRAH No.		Khewat No.	Owner, briefly.	Tenant, briefly.	Area calculation.	Area.	Kind of soil.	CROPS.		REVENUE.		REMARKS.
	Old.	New.							Kharff.	Rabi.	Class.	Rate.	

Note.—1. This form will apply in all villages which have not got a fixed boundary. In villages with fixed boundaries, all changes will be shown in Form C.  
2. Total of the area shown in column 8 will represent the extent to which the area of the village has been increased by alluvion.

# FORM C.—(Example).

*Khastah of changes in class of soil due to river action.*

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
Serial No.	Khasrah No.	Khasat No.	Owner (briefly).	Tenant (briefly).	FORMER.			PRESENT.								REMARKS.
					Area.	Kind of soil.	Rate of assess-ment.	Khasrah No.	Area calculation where necessary.	Area.	Kind of soil.	Kharif.	Rabi.	Class.	Rate.	
1	86	2	Gulab ...	Khudkasht ...	K. M. 6 1	Sailab ...	Rs. a. p. 0 3 0 per kanal	86	42 x 16	3 15	Sailab ...	...	Wheat ...	I or Kamil ...	0 3 0	Wheat field measured and its calcu-lation shown in columns 9 to 16. The remaining area was <i>reymadr</i> .
2	5006	10	{ Shamiliat { Wasawa ... Bata ...	Mangal ...	{ 221 2 Do. ... Wasawa ... Bata ...	Unculturable ...	Nil.	5075	42 x 11	2 11	Sailab ...	...	Barley ...	Adna ...	0 1 6	
				Do. ...				5076	36 x 12	2 8	Do. ...	...	Do. ...	Do. ...	Do.	7 kands 2 marls out of No. 5008 broken up and cultivated by four tenants. Hence 4 area cultiva-tions. Last number being 5074, new numbers given to new fields are 5075 to 5079.
				Wasawa ...				5077	24 x 11	1 9	Do. ...	...	Do. ...	Do. ...	Do.	
				Bata ...				5078	23 x 11	0 14	Do. ...	...	Do. ...	Do. ...	Do.	
3	5010	7	Do. ...	Sandi ...	9 10	Sailab ...	0 1 6 adna.	5079	...	214 0	Unculturable ...	...	...	Kharij bakh ...	Nil	Enhanced rate to be charged for wheat being sown.
								5010	...	9 10	Sailab ...	...	Wheat ...	Kamil ...	0 3 0	
4	379	6	Kishna ...	Self ...	8 8 4 2	Do. Unculturable ...	0 3 0 Nil.	379	...	12 10	Do. ...	...	Do. ...	Do. ...	0 3 0	Part of field No. 379, which was unculturable, sown with wheat, and the whole field rendered <i>kamil</i> .

# FORM D.

Khevat showing changes in revenue of holdings due to river action as ascertained at end of Kharif 19 .

1	2	3	4	5			6			7			8	9			10	11	12	13	14	15
Khevat No. in last jamabandi.	Khatundi No.	Name of owner and of tenant where necessary.	Assessment of Khata according to last year's papers.	Old.	New.	Area and kind of soil.	Rate.	Demand.	Area and kind of soil.	Rate.	Demand.	DIFFERENCE.			Revenue of Khata as now fixed.	REMARKS.						

# FORM E.

Register of fields assessed below full rates and of fields assessed at grazing rates.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8-28
Khaseerah No.	Owner and tenant (briefly.)	Area with details	CROPS.				
			Kharif.	Rabi.	Rate.	Remarks	[Previous columns to be repeated for 3 more years.]

### Statement of Diluvion and Alluvion

[illegible]

NOTE.—1. The figures in column 7 should agree with the  
2. The assessment in columns 24 to 26 is also taken

**FORM**

*Statement of Financial Results of Alluvion and Diluvion Assessment for the  
proposed remission in the Revenue Roll and amount*

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
District.	Tahsil.	Assessment Circle.	River.	Juma of villages affected for agricultural year previous to period under report, kharif 19 , rabi 19 .	Gross increase of assessment due to alluvion &c. (including jagir).	Gross decrease of assessment due to diluvion, &c. (including jagir).	Net increase (khasia) to be collected as fluctuating revenue.

**Notes.**—Column 3.—When the assessment circles are numerous this  
 Column 4.—The figures for the large rivers of the Province  
 Columns 9, 11 and 12.—The amounts shown in column 9  
 Column 13.—Note in the column the Officer by whom the  
 Reports prescribing such method, or

[illegible]

**G.**

9	10	11	12	13
Net decrease (khālās) to be remitted.	New assessment of vil- lages affected for agri- cultural year, kharif 19 , rabi 19 .	REMISSIONS PROPOSED ON ACCOUNT OF INJURY TO CROPS BY INUNDATION.		REMARKS.
		Kharif 19 .	Rabi 19 .	

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## APPENDIX D.

*Procedure Rules for the guidance of Officers dealing with the boundary between the Kashmir State and the Jhelum District.*

1. Under Punjab Revenue Circular No. 50, para. 6, the boundary between the Jhelum District and the Kashmir and Jammu State will be inspected annually by officers deputed by both sides. It is the duty of the Deputy Commissioner of Jhelum to move the State authorities early in the season to make the necessary arrangements, in order that the inspection may be carried out in the cold season when the river is low.

The result of the inspection, and particularly the condition of the boundary pillars, should be the subject of special notice in the Annual Revenue Administration Report of the district.

2. Where no dispute arises and no modification of the boundary is necessary, a mere inspection of the boundary and the boundary marks is all that is required. This will be carried out ordinarily by the Revenue Assistant of Jhelum together with an officer of corresponding rank deputed by the State.

When a dispute is found to exist or any modification of the boundary is found to be necessary under the rules which follow, the inspecting officer's procedure will be in accordance with the orders contained in Punjab Government Circular No. <sup>19</sup>284, dated 19th October 1896 (printed in Revenue Circular No. 50, Correction Slips Nos. 514 and 690).

3. The boundary between the Jhelum District and the Kashmir State, in part is a fixed boundary, marked out where possible by masonry pillars, and in part follows the deep stream or one of its branches. In both cases it is subject to alteration in the following circumstances.

4. When the former boundary was fixed, and any portion of it is carried away by the river it will so far as destroyed be replaced by the stream as the boundary.

(Example not printed.)

5. Where the boundary is the main stream or one of its branches, that stream or branch of the stream remains the boundary, notwithstanding changes in its position due to gradual accretion on one side and erosion on the other.

6. When, however, a change occurs that is due to avulsion, or the boundary stream dries up, the stream ceases to be the boundary, and a new boundary is fixed as follows:—

Where no change has taken place in the position of the stream since it became the boundary, its deserted bed will be equally divided between the two States.

When changes have taken place the whole of the deserted bed will be assigned to that State on which the stream had encroached; the State from which the stream had receded will be entitled to no share in it.

(Example not printed).

7. Where the stream, being the boundary, recedes from the point where it ceases to be the boundary and where a fixed boundary begins, the determination of the manner in which the fixed boundary shall be continued in order to meet the new bank of the boundary stream will be in accordance with the rule of *maház*: that is the line between the two nearest remaining pillars of the fixed boundary on the same side of the stream will be continued in a straight line to meet the new bank of the stream.

8. Where (a) the main stream or (b) one of its branches is the boundary, the formation of a new branch of the stream will not cause the boundary stream to cease to be the boundary, so long as the boundary stream (a) continues to be the main stream, or (b) continues to exist as a branch of the river.

9. Where a stream is the boundary each of the two States will show on its maps half the area under water.

Where stream forms boundary its area how mapped.

## APPENDIX E.

## SCHEME OF SUSPENSIONS.

No scheme of suspensions, which shall work automatically, can be devised: all that we can do is (a) to note roughly which parts of the district are most likely and least likely to stand in need of relief; (b) to devise some means of drawing the attention of the Collector to the estates whose condition is such as at any rate to call for enquiry; and (c) to note briefly the main principles on which past experience teaches us that it is desirable to proceed in these enquiries. The following note deals with the points above referred to.

## A.—SECURE AND INSECURE AREAS.

1. Maps have been prepared, of which one copy has been made over to the Deputy Commissioner, and others have been distributed as required by Revenue Circular No. 31, distinguishing between—

Maps.

Secure areas (those very unlikely to need suspensions).

Insecure areas (those that are likely to need such relief from time to time).

Highly insecure areas (those exceptionally likely to do so).

For the classification of the villages as above, the experience of the five years 1895-1900 has been the principal guide: these years as a whole represent a period of drought and agricultural distress such as has certainly never before occurred under British rule; and they therefore provide exceptional materials for forming a correct opinion. One thing that they proved was that no part of the district, not even the *sailáb* tracts, can be considered to be absolutely "secure" from drought.

2. Apart from the riverain villages, which are subject to a semi-fluctuating system of assessment, the areas in this district, which can be classed as comparatively secure are, with certain exceptions in each case, as follows:—

Secure areas.

The Jhelum Tahsil east and north of the Railway.

The eastern and central *ilákas* of the Pind Dádan Khan Hills.

The River Bank Circle of the same tahsil, east of Pind Dádan Khan.

The security of the first two is due to the enjoyment of a comparatively heavy and certain rainfall; the last is secure, partly for the same reason, and partly because, excluding the river-inundated lands, nearly half its cultivation is secured by wells, which do not seem liable to failure in seasons of drought.

3. The pre-eminently insecure tracts are as follows:—

The Pind Dádan Khan Thal (far the most insecure in the district).

The extreme west of the Pind Dádan Khan Hills.

Highly insecure areas. The villages at the foot of the Salt Range, in the south of the Lundi Patti Circle of Chakwál.

A small tract in the north-west of the Tallagang Tahsil.

A great part of the western side of the Jhelum Tahsil, and particularly the villages of the Padhri *iláka*, and those which lie under the Tilla Hill.

All the rest of the district is insecure, but less likely to need suspensions than the tracts above mentioned.

4. This classification has not much practical value: in one of the worst harvests of recent years, while very large suspensions were given in the "secure" tracts, some of the "highly insecure" villages had almost a middling crop.

Useful classification impracticable.

## B.—GUIDE TO SUSPENSIONS.

5. What is required is some arrangement whereby a busy Deputy Commissioner, perhaps new to the district, may be able at a glance to estimate with some correctness the paying capacity of a large number of estates: whatever that arrangement may be, it is clear that it must be based on the village crop returns; the only question is how best to make use of them. The system adopted here is to make those returns the basis of a calculation showing, for the particular harvest, the amount that would be due from each estate by a fluctuating assessment on the area successfully harvested, yielding on an average of years for the assessment circle as a whole the amount imposed on it as a fixed assessment.

6. As a uniform crop rate applied to the harvested area of a whole circle would give results so uneven as to be almost useless (taking no account of differences of soils or of the other factors which go to make up the general paying capacity of each village), rather elaborate rates must be employed: in

Crop rates per acre successfully cropped.



the first place the estates within each assessment circle have been grouped in three grades, according to quality; and for each group thus formed separate rates have been worked out for each of the four principal classes of land, viz., irrigated, *sailáb*, superior unirrigated, and inferior unirrigated. These rates are shown on the statement attached.

7. In order that work may not be increased by the addition of another register  
 Manner of using these rates. to the large number already maintained, the Financial Commissioner has sanctioned the use in this district of the annexed form of Abstract Village Note-Book in place of that ordinarily prescribed.

All the entries will be made in the Sadar. For those regarding the area of crops and the calculation in columns 19 to 23 each patwári will be supplied with loose sheets in the following form :—  
 Entries in columns 6, 9 and 19 to 23 of Register.

Tahsil	Assessment Circle.	No. and name of village.	Harvest.				
			PRESENT HARVEST, AREA OF CROPS WITH DETAIL.				
			Sanctioned crop rates.		Harvested in acres.	Failed in acres.	Demand by crop rates on area harvested.
			Rs.	A. P.			Rs. A. P.
Irrigated ... ..							
Sailáb ... ..							
Hail and baráni I ... ..							
Maira and rakkar ... ..							
TOTAL ... ..							
Actual demand of harvest, Rs.							
Percentage of demand by crop rates on actual demand.							

A list of the crop rates of each village has been supplied to each patwári, and also entered on the opening sheet of his village note-books. He has also been supplied with a ready reckoner for the conversion of local areas into acres. The procedure will be as follows.

After completing the ordinary crop abstract returns of a harvest, the patwári will fill in the supplementary crop abstract form shown above and send it with the crop abstract to the tahsil office kanungo.

The tahsil kánungo after checking the entries in these supplementary abstracts will send them in original to the Sadar. He need not wait until all the abstracts are received, but should send them in from time to time as a sufficient number accumulates. The clerk in the District Office entrusted with the work, who must be capable of writing neat figures in a very small space, will then fill in columns 6—9 and 19—23 of the register, having first checked the calculation of the *jama* by crop rates; and if proper arrangements have been made, will be able to do a considerable part of the work while the *girdáwari* is still in progress.

In the case of the rabi returns all entries relating to the *jama* by crop rates must be made in the first instance in pencil to be inked after the returns of the *zaid* rabi come in; they cannot be deferred altogether till then.

The space allowed for the double entries in columns 19—21 being very small, the useless repetition of the revenue actually payable should be avoided; in the majority of villages the revenue remains unchanged for a long series of years; and it is unnecessary to make a fresh entry until a change occurs. The settlement entry in these columns should be the gross assessment announced without regard to reductions due on protective leases, and except in villages subject to di-alluvion it will seldom need alteration.

8. The remaining columns of the register can only be filled in after the *jamabandis* have been prepared and the accounts for the year have been closed, but it is necessary that the work should be completed if possible before the 1st November when the kharif crop returns begin to come in. The procedure should be as follows.  
 Entries in remaining columns.

The patwári will be supplied with loose abstract sheets in the following form :—

Supplementary annual abstract of village Assessment Circle, \_\_\_\_\_ Tahsil.

YEAR.	CULTIVATED AREA OF THE YEAR.			No. of wells in use.	TOTAL CULTIVATED AREA TRANSFERRED BY SALE DURING THE YEAR.			TOTAL CULTIVATED AREA HELD UNDER MORTGAGE.		
	Irrigated.	Unirrigated.	Total.		To new agricultur-ists.	To old agricultur-ists.	Total.	By new agricultur-ists.	By old agricultur-ists.	Total.

These abstracts should be filled in by the patwári and sent by him along with his annual returns to the tahsil office kánúngo, by whom after they have been checked they will be sent to the Sadar Office ; and the entries in columns 2 to 5 and 13 to 18 of the registers will then be filled in.

In order to obtain correct entries regarding suspensions, realizations and balances the tahsil office kánúngo will have a register in the following form :—

Village \_\_\_\_\_

Suspensions, Realizations and Balances.

Suspension during the year.	Realizations of suspended arrears.	Balance suspended arrears.

This register will be bound up by assessment circles ; the name of the tahsil and assessment circle being written on the outer cover. Immediately after the close of the year (30th September) the figures for each village will be copied by the tahsil kánúngo from the accounts kept by the tahsil Wásil Báqi Navís, and each register as it is completed will be forwarded to the Sadar in original where the entries will be made in the village abstract registers.

9. The register entries (column 22 or 23) will enable the Collector to single out at a glance the villages in which the actual demand is largely in excess of what they ought to be able to pay : but it need not be said that blind reliance on these or any other statistics is the last thing that is intended. It will be found desirable, therefore, to take a preliminary report from Tahsildars, which should reach the Collector a fortnight before the *girdáwari* is to begin, and which should take the form of a list merely of the villages in the Tahsildar's opinion likely to need suspensions : the object of getting such a report is two-fold ; it will enable the Deputy Commissioner to make proper arrangements for the inspection during the *girdáwari* by an Assistant Collector of the 1st grade of the tracts requiring special attention ; and it will oblige the Tahsildar to form some sort of opinion on the facts, and not, as some are inclined to do, to rely implicitly on the crop returns, which will often mislead. There is no part of the duties of the subordinate revenue establishment which is attended with greater difficulty, or is performed with less success, than the proper estimation of the relation between the crop on the ground and the imaginary average crop on the same sort of soil ; and in consequence the value of the crop returns is greatly diminished by inaccuracy in the *kharába* deductions : moreover, it often happens that the crop deteriorates after the *girdáwari* is made : and in bad years it is also useful to remember that the standard normal crop with which inspecting officers mentally compare the crop on the ground, is apt to vary insensibly with the general character of the harvest ; so that *kharába* deductions are likely to be least adequate precisely in those seasons in which it is of most importance that they should be accurate.

10. For the inspection during the *girdáwari* of villages in need of attention, the Assistant Commissioner of Pind Dádan Khan should ordinarily be held responsible to the extent of his Sub-division, the Revenue Assistant of the District performing this duty elsewhere : but in years of wide-spread crop failure, the former at least is likely to require some assistance.

11. The subsequent detailed proposals regarding suspensions and the realisation of arrears should be submitted by the Tahsildar through the officer who has made the inspections referred to in the preceding paragraph, with whom the Tahsildar will usually have discussed the recommendations that he proposes to make. The statements submitted should show, in addition to the other particulars prescribed, the *jama* by crop rates for that harvest. Should *takávi* outstandings be on a large scale, the amount due from each village for that harvest should be also entered as well as any unsuspended arrears outstanding on 15th March (kharif arrears) and 1st October (rabi arrears); for anything remaining on those dates may be taken to have been paid from the harvest following that in which they fell due: but such arrears ought not to occur.

12. To begin with, it will be well to make the Tahsildars report as to the condition of all villages of which the actual demand is more than double the demand by crop-rates; if it is found after some experience of the working of the new assessments that this leads to unnecessary work, some alteration can be made in what may be termed the "danger rate"—the figure in columns 22 and 23 which may be taken to show that there is a *prima facie* case for enquiry: it may be found expedient to fix a lower limit than 50 per cent. proposed above. It is obvious, however, that a good deal depends on the character of the preceding harvests; 50 per cent. would be too high a limit after a long series of good harvests, but it would be too low after a number of bad ones; the point is therefore one as to which in special circumstances special orders may be necessary.

13. Having had his attention drawn to a village, the Collector will consider the entries in columns 22—23 for the current and preceding harvests, which, with the aid of his local knowledge (or failing that, the brief settlement remarks as to each village on the 4th page of the register form), will in most cases enable him to judge how far the proposals of his subordinates can be accepted: in cases of doubt the detailed crop return may sometimes be referred to with advantage. He must be prepared for a considerable divergence of the actual demand from the demand by rates: for the reasons given in paragraph 9 it is necessary to allow for a large margin of error; and it may be added that in a very good harvest the crop *jama* of villages in the lower grades is likely to be too low, in proportion to that of the higher grade estates, than is the case in an ordinary season: the reason is that in very favourable conditions there is a certain levelling up, the yield on good and poor land differing less than usual; and to some extent the converse also is true, that in a bad year the *jama* by crop rates is likely to be unduly high in superior villages when compared with those of lower grades.

As there is only one set of crop rates for the two harvests, and the rabi crops are more valuable than those grown in the kharif, the crop *jama* will (other things being equal) tend to be too high in the kharif and too low in the rabi.

14. In using the register, columns 19 to 23, it will always be well to bear in mind the manner in which the crop rates have been arrived at: they are calculated to bring out on the average the fixed assessment of the circle as a whole: that fixed assessment is itself much below the theoretical half assets demand, see paragraphs 42 to 67 of Final Report. The half assets estimate again is based on very moderate assumed prices, of which the following are the most important:—

			Wheat.	Bájra.	
Jhelum and Pind Dádan Khan	...	...	25	32	sérs per rupee.
Chakwál and Tallagang	...	...	28	35	" " "

The extent by which current village prices differ from the above rates should be taken into consideration in cases of doubt: but it should not be forgotten that high prices are of advantage to the zamindár only so far as he has surplus produce to dispose of.

#### C.—GENERAL OBSERVATIONS REGARDING SUSPENSIONS AND REALIZATION OF SUSPENDED ARREARS.

15. The following observations appear to be justified by the experience of recent years: but much depends on the circumstances of the moment, and neither these nor any other rules are always applicable.

(1). The kharif produce is used chiefly to feed the people and their cattle: much of the kharif demand is paid from the proceeds of the rabi harvest preceding: it follows that a moderately bad failure of the kharif, following a tolerable rabi, will not ordinarily necessitate suspensions. This is not, however, the case if the kharif failure is so bad that grain and fodder are insufficient to tide over the long  $7\frac{1}{2}$  months between the harvesting of the kharif, and the reaping of the following rabi: the distress is then very great, especially when (as is probable in such a season) the rabi oilseeds, which provide green food both for man and beast, are backward.

(NOTE.—Certain villages depend more on the kharif than the rabi: e.g., the villages from Hun to Nara, south of the Tilla range: the Thal and Phaphra circles of Pind Dádan Khan depend much more than other parts of the district on their kharif).

(2). The rabi being the important harvest, a moderately bad failure will probably require suspensions unless the two preceding crops at least have been well up to the average. But a moderate failure in this harvest may sometimes be retrieved by the prospect of a good kharif: the autumn harvest is reaped little more than four months after the rabi; and crops such as *bájra*, *jowár* and maize are available for food even before they ripen, owing to the practice of picking the ears for cooking as soon as the grain forms. Moreover, the loss of the rabi fodder crop is not felt immediately, unless the failure is very bad indeed.

(3). Suspensions should as a rule be either of the whole or of half the demand: to suspend a quarter is not worth while: and if a village is in such a bad way that it cannot pay even half, it will seldom be advisable to realise anything at all. Fractions that will not be readily understood by a proprietary unable to count above twenty should be avoided.

In the same way realizations of suspended arrears should be in even annas per rupee of the current demand on the holdings liable for the arrears: usually four annas or a multiple of four. It may occasionally be worth while to realize two annas per rupee, but only for special reasons should this be done: otherwise either four annas should be taken or nothing.

(4). The amount realised may, as a rule, be eight annas per rupee if the harvest is fairly good, but it will not ordinarily be wise to take more: it is better to take too little than to take too much, and injudicious realizations of arrears do great harm. In tracts like Tallagang or the Pind Dádan Khan Thal, where holdings are large, and the revenue generally light owing to the uncertainty of the cropping, one really good harvest goes far to set the zamindárs on the way to prosperity, and arrears can quickly be realized: in such villages one rupee per rupee may be taken without hesitation, provided the crops are really good, and no long sequence of bad years has gone before. In tracts like the Jhelum Pabbi, where holdings are small and the demand high, the people are much less likely to get into difficulties, as the cropping is more certain; but if they do, recovery will be slower.

(5). Realizations should not be made in the kharif following a bad rabi, (unless in villages where the kharif is the really important crop), no matter how good the kharif may be: though it may for exceptional reasons become advisable to take a nominal amount of arrears; this was done, for instance, here and there in this district a few years ago, because the people were beginning to think that the arrears due from them would never be realized, and it was desirable to remove this impression.

Realizations can, on the other hand, usually be made on an average rabi crop even though the preceding kharif was bad: but obviously in this as in all cases the circumstances of the preceding harvests must be carefully considered.

(6). The importance of the prompt disposal of all questions relating to suspensions, and realization of suspended arrears, cannot be too strongly insisted upon.

Statement showing Crop Rates adopted for use in connection with scheme of suspensions in Jhelum District.

Paragraph 6 of the Note.

Tahsil.	Assessment Circles.	IRRIGATED.			SAILAB.			SUPERIOR BARANI.			INFERIOR BARANI.		
		I.	II.	III.	I.	II.	III.	I.	II.	III.	I.	II.	III.
		Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.
Jhelum ...	River Bank ...	5 0 0	4 0 0	3 0 0	2 8 0	1 12 0	1 0 0	2 4 0	2 0 0	1 8 0	1 4 0	1 0 0	0 12 0
	Maidan ...	5 0 0	4 0 0	3 0 0	2 0 0	1 8 0	1 0 0	2 8 0	2 0 0	1 8 0	1 8 0	1 4 0	1 0 0
	Khuddar ...	7 0 0	6 0 0	5 0 0	...	...	...	2 8 0	2 0 0	1 8 0	1 4 0	1 0 0	0 12 0
	Pabbi ...	6 0 0	5 0 0	4 0 0	...	...	...	2 12 0	2 8 0	2 4 0	1 8 0	1 4 0	1 0 0
	Hills ...	6 8 0	5 0 0	4 0 0	...	...	...	2 12 0	2 4 0	1 8 0	1 8 0	1 0 0	0 12 0
P. D. Khan	Phaphra ...	4 0 0	3 4 0	2 8 0	...	...	...	2 8 0	2 0 0	1 8 0	1 4 0	1 0 0	0 12 0
	Thal ...	2 8 0	2 4 0	2 0 0	2 8 0	2 0 0	1 8 0	1 12 0	1 8 0	1 4 0	1 0 0	0 12 0	0 8 0
	River Bank ...	3 0 0	2 4 0	1 8 0	2 8 0	2 0 0	1 8 0	1 8 0	1 4 0	1 0 0	1 0 0	0 12 0	0 8 0
Chakwal ...	Lundi Patti ...	6 0 0	5 0 0	4 0 0	...	...	...	2 4 0	1 12 0	1 4 0	1 2 0	0 12 0	0 8 0
	Dhanni ...	6 8 0	5 8 0	4 8 0	...	...	...	1 12 0	1 8 0	1 0 0	1 0 0	0 12 0	0 8 0
Talagang ...	Talagang ...	6 0 0	5 0 0	4 0 0	...	...	...	1 4 0	1 0 0	0 12 0	0 10 0	0 8 0	0 6 0



Mauza.

No.

Tahsil.

موضع

نمبر

تحصیل

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
YEAR. سال	CULTIVATED AREA OF THE YEAR. رقبه مزرعه سال			تعداد چاهات جاری Number of wells in use.	AREA OF CROPS. رقبه زراعتی فصل							TOTAL CULTIVATED AREA TRANSFERRED BY SALE DURING THE YEAR. کل رقبه مزرعه جو سال میلن بیع هوا		
	آبی باقی Irrigated.	غیر آبی باقی Unirrigated.	میزان Total.		Kharif. خريف		Rabi. ربیع		Total Crops matured. میزان رقبه پخته شده			بدست کشاورزان جدید To new agriculturists.	بدست کشاورزان پراگانا To old agriculturists.	میزان Total.
					پخته شده Harvested.	خرابه Failed.	پخته شده Harvested.	خرابه Failed.	آبی باقی Irrigated.	غیر آبی باقی Unirrigated.	میزان Total.			
SETTLEMENT ENTRY. اندراج بند و بست														
1895-96 ...														
1896-97 ...														
1897-98 ...														
1898-99 ...														
Total میزان														
Average اوسط														
1900-1900 ...														
1900-01 ...														
1901-02 ...														
1902-03 ...														
Total میزان														
Average اوسط														
1903-04 ...														
1904-05 ...														
1905-06 ...														
1906-07 ...														
Total میزان														
Average اوسط														
1907-08 ...														
1908-09 ...														
1909-10 ...														
1910-11 ...														
Total میزان														
Average اوسط														
1911-12 ...														
1912-13 ...														
1913-14 ...														
1914-15 ...														
Total میزان														
Average اوسط														
1915-16 ...														
1916-17 ...														
1917-18 ...														
1918-19 ...														
Total میزان														
Average اوسط														

**Assessment Circle.**

**Class.**

## Crop Rates

## چک لشیص

درجہ

{ پڑنے قسموار فی ایکڑ اجناس بختہ

16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30
TOTAL CULTIVATED AREA HELD UNDER MORTGAGE.			TOTAL LAND REVENUE ACTUALLY PAYABLE (in black), AND AS CALCULATED BY CROP RATES ON HARVESTED AREA (in red).			% OF DEMAND BY CROP RATES ON ACTUAL DEMAND.		SUSPENSIONS, REALIZATIONS AND BALANCES.						REMARKS.
کل رقبہ مزرعہ زیر رهن			اصل مطالبہ قابل وصول (بقلم سیاہی) و جمع ہر وقت ہر گزہ قسماں بلحاظ اجناس ہفتہ (بقلم سرخی)			فیصدی جمع ہر وقت ہر گزہ اجناس ہفتہ بقا بلہ اصل مطالبہ		رقمات التوائے وصولی بقایا						
By new agriculturists.	By old agriculturists.	Total.	Kharif.	Rabi.	Total.	Kharif.	Rabi.	Suspensions during the year.	Realization of suspended arrears.	Balance suspended arrears.				
By new agriculturists.	By old agriculturists.	Total.	خريف	ربيع	مجموع	خريف	ربيع	التوائے سال حال	التوائے منجملة	بقایا التوائے				



**REMARKS BY COLLECTOR OR HIS ASSISTANTS.**

## APPENDIX F.

Showing Expenditure of Jhelum Settlement up to 30th June 1901.

Major head of Service.	Budget headings.	Amount.		
LAND REVENUE SETTLEMENT, IMPERIAL SERVICE.		Rs.	a.	p.
	Salary and Settlement Allowances of Gazetted Officers	1,50,509	8	2
	A.—OFFICE ESTABLISHMENT.			
	1. Office Establishment of Extra Assistant Settlement Officer ... ..	4,238	7	8
	2. Office Establishment on fixed pay included English writing Allowance of Office Kánúngos ...	9,894	11	3
	3. Office Kánúngos ... ..	19,089	11	9
	4. Menial Establishment ... ..	14,432	3	0
	Total Office Establishment...	47,655	1	8
	B.—FIELD ESTABLISHMENT.			
	5. Settlement Tahsildars ... ..	17,739	1	0
	6. Deputy Superintendents ... ..	33,691	3	11
	7. Field Kánúngos ... ..	58,693	11	8
	8. Field Allowance of Field Kánúngos ...	11,435	0	0
	Total Field Establishment ...	1,26,559	0	7
	9. Temporary Establishment ... ..	91,583	14	7
	Total Pay of Establishment ...	2,65,798	0	10
	10. Travelling Allowance of Gazetted Officers ...	12,654	0	1
	11. Ditto of Establishment ...	5,458	9	3
	12. Contingent Expenditure, except Stationery and Lithography ... ..	38,737	12	0
	13. Stationery ... ..	16,757	10	2
	14. Lithography... ..	756	8	0
	Total Contingencies ...	56,251	14	2
	GRAND TOTAL ...	4,90,672	0	6

## APPENDIX G.

*Notifications regarding Settlement.*

No. 221, dated 3rd December 1895.

Under Section 49 (1) of the Land Revenue Act, 1887, it is hereby notified, with the sanction of the Governor-General in Council, that a general re-assessment of the land revenue of the Jhelum District is about to be undertaken.

No. 222, dated 3rd December 1895.

Whereas it appears to the Hon'ble the Lieutenant-Governor that the existing records of rights for the estates included in the Jhelum District require special revision, the Lieutenant-Governor, in exercise of the powers conferred upon him by Section 32 of the Punjab Land Revenue Act, 1887, hereby directs that the records of rights of the said estates shall be revised.

*Powers.*

No. and date of Notification.	Persons invested with powers.	Powers conferred.
No. 752, dated 2nd December 1895.	Mr. W. S. Talbot, Settlement Collector, Jhelum.	All the powers of a Collector under the Punjab Land Revenue Act, 1887, (with the exception of Chapter VI thereof), Mr. Talbot not being subject to the control of the Collector.
No. 753, dated 2nd December 1895.	Mr. W. S. Talbot, Settlement Collector, Jhelum.	All the powers of a Collector under the Punjab Tenancy Act, 1887, Mr. Talbot not being subject to the control of the Collector.
No. 401 A, dated 25th May 1896.	Lála Bhawáni Dás, Extra Assistant Settlement Officer, Jhelum.	All the powers of a Collector under the Punjab Land Revenue Act, 1887, (with the exception of Chapter VI thereof).
No. 401 B, dated 25th May 1896.	Lála Bhawáni Dás, Extra Assistant Settlement Officer, Jhelum.	All the powers of a Collector under the Punjab Tenancy Act of 1887.
No. 648 A, dated 27th August 1896.	Lála Bhawáni Dás, Extra Assistant Settlement Officer, Jhelum.	In supersession of Notifications Nos. 401 A and 401 B, dated the 25th May 1896, to be an Assistant Collector, 1st grade.
No. 445 A, dated 27th May 1899.	Lála Bhawáni Dás, Extra Assistant Settlement Officer, Jhelum.	All the powers of a Collector under the Punjab Land Revenue Act, 1887, (with the exception of Chapter VI thereof), during the absence on privilege leave of Mr. W. S. Talbot.
No. 445 B, dated 27th May 1899.	Lála Bhawáni Dás, Extra Assistant Settlement Officer, Jhelum.	All the powers of a Collector under the Punjab Tenancy Act, 1887, during the absence on privilege leave of Mr. W. S. Talbot.
No. 86, dated 23rd January 1900.	Bábu R. C. Singha, Settlement Tahsildar.	To be an Assistant Collector, 1st grade.

## APPENDIX H.

*Glossary of Vernacular Terms.*

ABÁDI	...	Village site.
ABI	...	Land irrigated from springs.
ALA-LAMBARDÁR		Chief headman of a village.
ALA MÁLIK	...	Superior proprietor.
AMÍN	...	Settlement patwári.
ASL MÁLIK	...	Original proprietor in a village.
BÁCHH	...	Internal distribution of the assessment in an estate.
BÁJRA	...	Spiked millet.
BÁRÁNI	...	Unirrigated (land).
BHAIACHÁRA	...	A form of tenure where possession is the measure of right.
CHÁHI	...	Land irrigated from a well.
CHAK	...	Assessment Circle, or other block of country.
CHARRI	...	Jowár grown thick for fodder.
CHAUKÍDÁR	...	A village watchman.
CHOHA	...	A measure of capacity, generally equal to three sérs.
FARD TABDÍL IQSÁM ARÁZI	...	A statement showing alterations in the soil classifications of fields.
GHI	...	Clarified butter.
GOSHWÁRA DEHI		Abstract statement showing the main statistics of each village.
HAIL	...	Manured land.
HAQ-BAKRI	...	Fees taken from inferiors at marriages.
ILÁQA	...	A tract of country.
INÁM	...	A grant of land revenue to a rural notable.
IZZAT	...	Honour.
JÁGÍR	...	A grant of land revenue.
JAMA	...	Land revenue demand.
JAMABANDI	...	Annual record of rights of a village.
JOWÁR	...	Great millet ( <i>Sorghum vulgare</i> ).
KACHCHA	...	(Of wells), unlined with masonry.
KALLAR	...	Land impregnated with salt.
KAMÍN	...	Village menial.
KAMÍANA	...	The customary payments made by village menials.
KANKÚT	...	Appraisement of produce of land.
KÁNÚNGO	...	A Revenue official who supervises the patwáris.

## APPENDIX H—continued.

KAS, KASSI	...	A torrent.
KHÁKA	...	Map reduced on smaller scale. Also used of rough index or skeleton maps.
KHÁLSA	...	Revenue demand not assigned to grantees, but paid to Government.
KHARÁBA	...	Crops which fail to mature.
KHARÍF	...	Autumn harvest.
KHATAUNI	...	Holding slip.
KHUDDAR	...	Ravines.
KUMHÁR	...	Potter.
LAMBAARDÁR	...	Village headman.
LOHÁR	...	Blacksmith.
MAFI	...	An assignment of land revenue.
MAIRA	...	Ordinary (generally level) unirrigated land.
MALBA	...	A general fund for defraying village expenses.
MÁLÍKÁNA	...	Proprietary due.
NAHRI	...	Land irrigated by canals.
PACHOTRA	...	Remuneration received by village headman.
PANJDOANDI	...	Division of a unit into two shares, one of three-fifths and the other of two-fifths.
PATTIDÁRI	...	A form of tenure where ancestral or customary shares are the measure of right.
PATWÁRI	...	Village accountant.
QABZA MÁLIK	...	A proprietor who has no share in village common land.
RABI	...	Spring harvest.
RÁJA	...	(Locally) a title used by Janjuás, Gakkhars, and some other dominant tribes or families.
RAKH	...	A block of State land, considered to be a forest.
RAKKAR	...	Inferior unirrigated land.
SÁHÚKÁR	...	Money-lender.
SAILÁB	...	Riverain land.
SARSON	...	An oilseed ( <i>Brassica campestris</i> ).
SER	...	A measure of weight.
SHAJRA-NASB	...	Pedigree table.
SHÁMILÁT	...	Village common land.
SHOB	...	Land impregnated with salt.
TAHSIL	...	An administrative division, part of a district.
TALUQDÁRI	...	Rights of superior ownership.

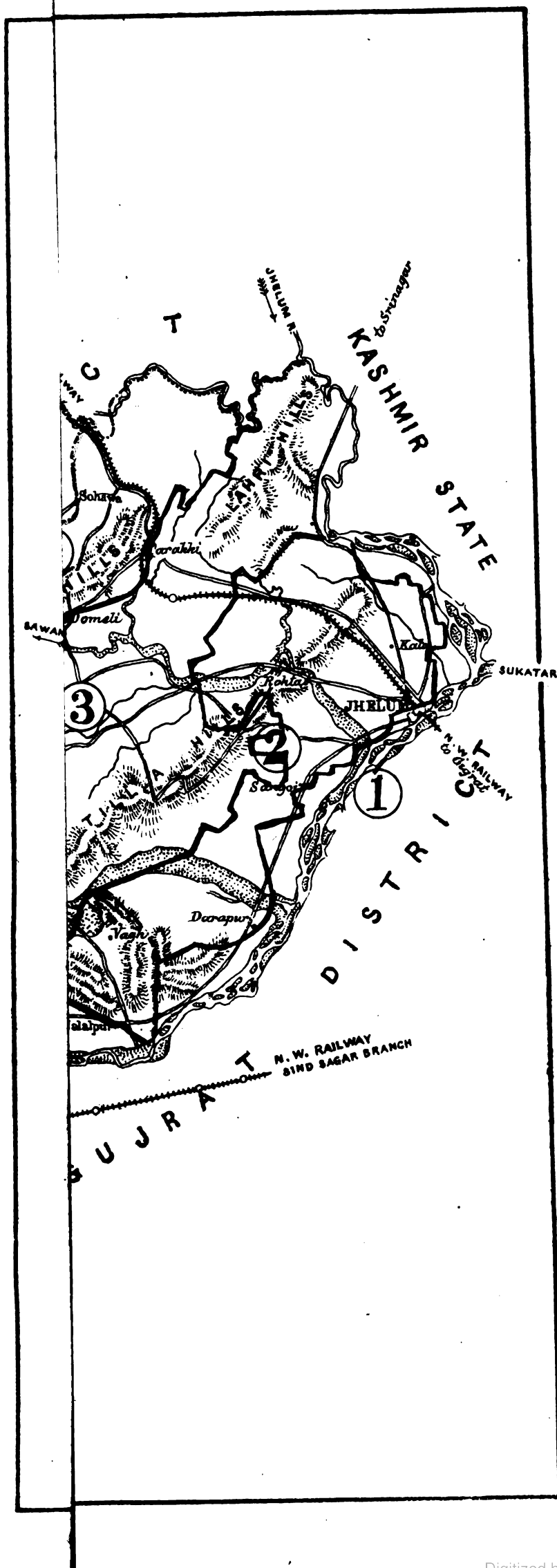
## APPENDIX H—concluded.

TÁRÁMÍRA	...	An oilseed ( <i>Eruca sativa</i> ).
TABKHÁN	...	Carpenter.
TOPA	...	A measure of capacity (equal to from 1½ to 3 sérs).
ULAMA	...	The priestly classes of Muhammadans.
WADH	...	Stubble.
WÁBISÁN QABZA		Owners with limited rights in the village common.
ZAMÍNDÁRI	...	A form of tenure where an estate is held by a sole proprietor, or several proprietors in common.

## APPENDIX I.

*Showing the percentage of cultivated area transferred in each Circle up to 8th June 1901.*

ASSESSMENT CIRCLE.	PERCENTAGE OF CULTIVATED AREA SOLD		PERCENTAGE OF CULTIVATED AREA MORTGAGED	
	To new agriculturists.	Total.	To new agriculturists.	Total.
River Bank ... ..	8·5	13·2	11·9	15·3
Maidán ... ..	4·4	9·4	12·1	14·6
Khuddar ... ..	2·8	7·8	5·2	6·
Pabbi ... ..	3·4	8·6	3·6	5·3
Tahsil Jhelum ... ..	4·8	9·8	8·2	10·2
Hills ... ..	3·	9·9	7·4	12·4
Phaphra ... ..	1·6	4·6	15·4	23·4
Thal ... ..	4·	8·4	12·7	15·2
River Bank ... ..	3·1	8·1	14·1	17·5
Tahsil Pind Dádan Khan ... ..	3·2	8·5	11·6	15·5
Lundi Patti ... ..	4·9	13·	5·9	9·2
Dhanni ... ..	5·6	12·7	7·	9·7
Tahsil Chakwál ... ..	5·5	12·8	6·8	9·6
Tallagang ... ..	2·1	9·	6·9	10·7
District ... ..	3·8	10·2	8·	11·2



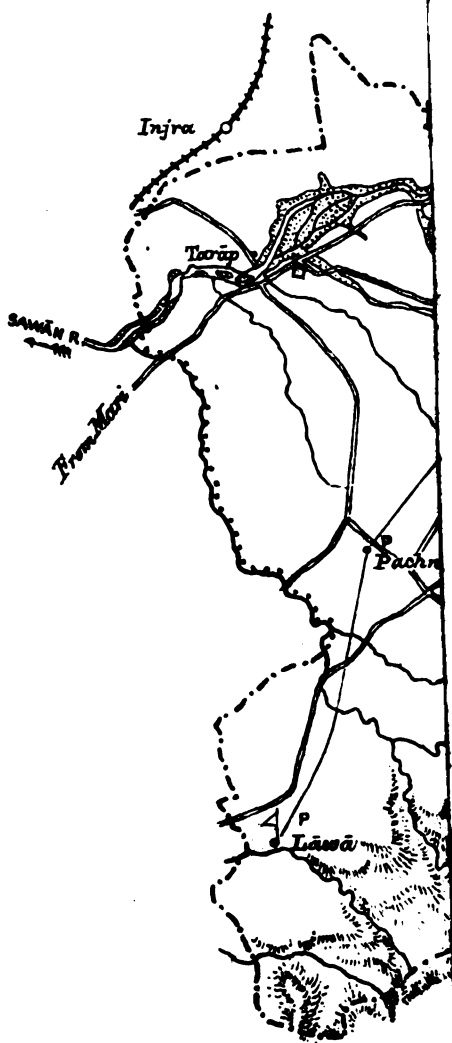








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## Review of the Final Report on the Revision of the Settlement of the Jhelum District, 1895—1901, by Lieutenant-Colonel J. A. L. Montgomery, Commissioner and Superintendent, Rawalpindi Division.

1. The principal feature of the Jhelum District is the unevenness of its surface. The Salt Range occupies a great part of its centre, and elsewhere the ground is much broken by low hills and ravines; there is little level land. Less than half the total area is under the plough; and practically all the crops are dependent upon rain, only 6 per cent. of the cultivated area being irrigated or subject to the influence of a river. If the project for the Jalálpur Inundation Canal is carried out there will be an increase in the irrigated area by some 50,000 acres. The average annual rainfall varies from 22 inches in the east to 12 or 15 inches in the west.

Physical features.

2. Taking the district as a whole it may be said that, roughly, one-third of the cropped area bears *kharif* crops, and two-thirds *rabi*. *Bajra* is the principal crop in the *kharif*, wheat in the *rabi*. The Settlement Officer shows (paragraphs 13 to 15) how uncertain the agriculture is. The sown area has in good years been over 1,100,000 acres, and in such years the acreage of failed crops has been comparatively small. The worst known year was 1899-1900, when out of 746,000 acres sown only 214,000 produced any crop. The *kharif* crops are more liable to failure than the *rabi*. Mr. Talbot's remark regarding the comparative security of the winter crop was illustrated this year (1902). When I marched through the district in February much of the wheat and gram was looking well, though there had been no rain since September or October. Unfortunately the drought continued up to the time of the harvest, and the outturn was very poor indeed. The fact is, if there is good moisture at the proper sowing time the *rabi* will stand a good deal of drought, though in such cases the straw will be short. Mr. Talbot has been unfortunate in seeing many bad years, and this has led him to take a rather too pessimistic view of the agricultural resources of the district. There have been bad years before (though not perhaps as bad as 1899-1900), and good years have followed and brought returning prosperity.

Agriculture.

3. The increase in cultivation is shown to have been 13 per cent. since the last settlement. In that settlement the increase was 41 per cent. over the area of the first Regular Settlement. The Settlement Officer believes that the new cultivation is, for the most part, very inferior to the old, and considers that the increase during the next generation is not likely to be more than 10 per cent. He refers (paragraph 9) to a remark made by me as Settlement Commissioner in reviewing the Assessment Report of the Pind Dádan Khan *tahsil*. When Mr. A. Brandreth wrote his report on the Regular Settlement in 1864 he expressed an opinion that there was no further room for extension of cultivation (except in parts of Talagang and Pind Dádan Khan), and that the settlement might then be made permanent. We have seen how much land has been broken up since then; first 41 per cent. then 13 per cent. It is true that future extensions must necessarily be on poor land. On the other hand, as the pressure of population increases there is a constant tendency to improve the older fields by levelling and making *bands*. It is not very safe to prophesy what the conditions will be 20 or 30 years hence.

Increase in cultivation.

4. This is a Muhammadan district. About a tenth only of the population are Hindús and Sikhs, and these are found principally in the towns. Politically the most important tribes are the Gakhars, Janjúas, and Awáns; the two former because, though comparatively few in numbers, they are the descendants of old rulers, and are proud of their ancestry; the Awáns because they hold more land than any other tribe, being especially strong in the north and west. According to the census

Population.

statistics the present population is very little more than it was in 1881; the Settlement Officer gives good reasons for attributing the decrease at the last census to the fact that the enumeration took place before the people who left in the time of scarcity had returned to their homes. It is true that in that period of scarcity, though there were no deaths from famine, there was a good deal of distress. The people of the district are manly and self-reliant, and ready to go far afield for a livelihood. When bad times come numbers go off to make money in other districts, even in other countries. The figures in paragraph 19 show how many are in Government service; in addition to this, Jhelum men are to be found in China, the Straits Settlements, and even in Africa, and I have come across them as stokers in ocean steamers.

5. It is too true that the late scarcity had a disastrous effect on the live stock. Thousands of cattle died, and it will be some time before they can be replaced. In Chakwál and parts of Talagang it has become a custom to keep very few cattle. When the time for ploughing comes a certain number are bought, and they are sold again when the ploughing is over.

6. Much has been written on the subject of alienations. In Jhelum, as in other Muhammadan districts, the money-lenders have acquired a good deal of land. It would be premature to say what the effect of the Land Alienation Act will be. So far the results have been beneficial; very little land is changing hands, and as it is more difficult to raise money so greater care is taken in spending it. There is less extravagance than there used to be. I endorse the Settlement Officer's opinion that "there is no reason to suppose that in any circle transfers are due to severity of assessment, unless in very exceptional circumstances." When the crops have failed the payment of the land revenue has been first suspended, and afterwards in many cases remitted, as will be noticed further on.

7. The revenue demand during British rule will be found in the table in paragraph 26. For the first 30 years the revenue was a good deal less than it had been under the Sikhs. After that the large increase in cultivation and the rise in prices justified an increased demand. But even so the assessment of Major Wace's Settlement was little more than the Sikh revenue. No very accurate data existed of the latter, but it was estimated at Rs. 7,08,846; the demand of the last year of the expiring settlement (1900-01) was Rs. 7,30,386. When the settlement now under review was begun the district had had the advantages of British rule for over 40 years; much new land had been brought under the plough; railways and roads had been made and prices had risen very much. All these were good reasons for raising the demand.

8. In paragraphs 33 to 39 will be found a concise but full account of the assessment data. I believe no Settlement Officer has taken more pains to be strictly accurate, and just in framing the half-asset assessment. Mr. Talbot knew the district thoroughly, and acquired a minute knowledge of the crops and their yield; and I think the average rates of yield assumed for the half-asset assessment, and the deductions made for fodder, *kamins'* dues, &c., may be accepted as fair, both to the people and to the Government. The commutation prices (paragraph 23) represent a rise of 33 per cent. since the previous settlement. The result of the calculations was to show that the Government is theoretically entitled to the following shares of the gross produce in each tahsil:—

Tahsil.										Per cent. on gross produce.
Jhelum	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	21½ to 22½
Pind Dádan Khan	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	21 to 23½
Chakwál	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	22½ to 23½
Talagang	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	15½ to 17

The share is smallest in Talagang because the rents are low in that part of the district. The demand actually assessed was in every case much below the share to which the Government was entitled, being for the whole district 69 per cent. of the estimated half assets, and not more than 14½ per cent. of the gross produce.

9. A detailed account of the assessments is given in paragraphs 42 to 70 of the report. It fell to me, as Settlement Commissioner, to review the assessment reports of all the tahsils.

The assessment.

I was obliged to recommend slight enhancements in some of the rates proposed by the Settlement Officer, and my recommendations were accepted by the Financial Commissioner and the Government. Mr. Talbot is evidently not satisfied that there was justification for the raising of his rates, for, while he admits that the new assessments can be paid without difficulty, there runs through his report a tone of dissatisfaction at the increase taken. He complains that the reasons for raising the assessments above his proposals have not been clearly stated. My reasons, which were accepted by the Government, will be found in the reviews of the assessment reports; I do not propose to repeat them here. Some statistics of the new assessments are given below:—

Tahsil.	Proposed by Settlement Officer.	Sanctioned by Government.	By sanctioned rates.	Finally announced.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Jhelum ... ..	2,28,500	2,35,806	2,35,682	2,31,739
Pind Dádan Khan ... ..	2,42,000	2,51,120	2,31,827	2,43,091
Chakwál ... ..	2,73,000	2,91,000	2,84,731	2,82,948
Talagang ... ..	1,60,500	1,62,000	1,57,380	1,59,848
Total District ...	9,04,000	9,39,926	9,09,620	9,17,636

The figures in the last column do not include Rs. 1,361 assessed on water-mills. It should be remembered that the survey had not been completed when most of the assessments were reported; and it was understood that the demand would be subject to alteration in accordance with the statistics brought out by the new survey. The assessment actually announced by the Settlement Officer and sanctioned by the Financial Commissioner was in every case below the totals sanctioned by the Government; in Jhelum and Chakwál, below even the demand by sanctioned rates. It was only  $1\frac{1}{4}$  per cent. higher than the amount which the Settlement Officer had himself proposed. My opinion is that the assessment is nowhere excessive, and can be easily paid in good or average years, but care will be necessary to give prompt relief by suspensions when the crops are below the average. It will be observed that the strongest objections to the enhancement were made in the Dhanni Circle of the Chakwál tahsil, where the landlords (see paragraph 119) exact the uttermost farthing from their tenants. The distribution of the demand between the villages has been done with care and good judgment. Mr. Talbot spent most of the year on tour, and, I believe, he inspected every village more than once. His remarks in paragraph 41 show the several factors considered by him in making his village assessments; and the village note-books testify to his diligence in this respect. There were 50 appeals against the assessments. None were successful.

The new assessments have been brought into effect from the *kharif* of 1901.

10. The table in paragraph 30 gives information regarding former suspensions of revenue. The late disastrous years necessitated a large measure of relief, and it is satisfactory to know that when the new assessment was introduced the revenue-payers started with a clean slate. All revenue under suspension on the 30th September, amounting to Rs. 4,54,812, has been remitted. The last *kharif* was below the average, and it was necessary to suspend Rs. 15,961 from the demand of that harvest, a sum which I hope will now be remitted. The present *rabi* also (1902) has not been good. A sum of Rs. 3,08,373 has had to be suspended, beside Rs. 2,614 remitted for damage from hail. It is sincerely to be hoped that the monsoon rains this year will be favourable, so as to give a good *kharif*, and to allow a large area to be sown with *rabi* crops.



11. Paragraphs 71 to 76 deal with some special matters connected with the assessment, of which the following may be noted.

Special matters connected with assessment.

*Assessment of quarries.*—The reason why I held that the lambardárs of Farásh could not have *pachotra* on the royalty paid to Government was that the money is rent, not revenue, and that *pachotra* is not ordinarily allowed on miscellaneous sums collected by lambardárs, such as *takávi* and other demands. I also pointed out that *pachotra* is not a deduction from the amount payable to the Government, but a charge made on the people.

*Remission of damage by roadside trees.*—The correspondence on this subject will be found in the Government Proceedings for April 1901 (Revenue and Agriculture Department). It would have been well if the Settlement Officer had stated the amount remitted for damage by roadside trees. It cannot have been much.

*Protective leases.*—Properly speaking, the embankments referred to come under the definition of agricultural improvements, being usually large banks at the lower ends of fields, made to retain moisture. Their number is very great, and they usually cost little to make; the remission due for each would be very small. On the whole, I think the Settlement Officer was wise to give protective leases for wells only. But it should be borne in mind that embankments costing an appreciable sum of money are entitled to such leases.

*Differential assessments.*—The question of differential assessments has been settled for the time in letter No. 244 S., dated 18th June 1901, from the Punjab Government to the Government of India, which is published in Financial Commissioner's Circular Memo. No. 3, dated 6th November 1901.

12. The survey of the district was completed in four years. It would probably have been done rather quicker if there had been a strong supervising staff from the beginning. It is now acknowledged that each *tahsil* should have a separate Settlement Tahsildar. It was quite right to re-measure the whole district anew, except the Government forests, and to do the survey on the square system. My experience is that correcting inaccurate maps takes almost as long as making new ones, and the result is not satisfactory. Notwithstanding the hilly nature of the country there were hardly any villages in which it was not possible to lay down squares. Mr. Talbot considers that base lines common to small groups of villages are an advantage, but a mistake if attempted on too large a tract of country. This was certainly my experience in the Dera Ismail Khan District, where we obtained the services of a special Survey Party to lay down long base lines one each side of the Indus. The lines were not accurate, and gave some trouble to work on.

Survey.

I believe the survey work in Jhelum to have been on the whole very well done. A note to paragraph 82 shows that field boundaries are not fixed in the Thal of Pind Dádan Khan and the rougher parts of Talagang. The advantages of a survey on the square system will be illustrated in these tracts; for it will be comparatively easy to make the needed amendments of boundaries inside each square without fear of a multiplication of error. Good *tahsil* maps have been printed on a scale of 2 miles to the inch for the use of district officers. This is an important matter. It ought to be one of the duties of every Settlement Officer to leave his district well furnished with topographical maps on a scale of 1 or 2 inches to the mile.

13. The account of the preparation of the record of rights (paragraphs 84 to 99) is full; sufficient reasons are given for any departure from ordinary rules. It is true that the soil entries are a very important part of the record work, and Mr. Talbot's suggestion that they should always be done in future by Naib Tahsildars is worth adoption. The distribution of revenue over holdings (*báchh*) was done with great care; not every Settlement Officer has been able personally to dispose of the case of every village in its vicinity as Mr. Talbot did.

Records of rights.

As regards the entries in the administration paper (*Wājib-ul-arz*), I think it is a pity that the clause regarding repayment of loss in rick-burning cases (paragraph 97) could not be maintained. Experience has shown that there is no such effectual way of stopping this dastardly form of crime as making the whole village community share in the loss.

The tendency to withhold payment of *kammiāna* and *hakkbakri*, the rapacity of the stronger members of the proprietary body in taking possession of the best bits of village common-land to the exclusion of others, and the disputes about *malba* are signs of the times. Such disputes are common where there are no recognised leaders. There is without doubt going on in many villages a gradual disintegration of communal ties, and the figures given in paragraph 111 show how property is being subdivided by partition of holdings. But this is not the case everywhere. Villages will still be found in which the old communal system exists unimpaired, where disputes are settled locally without recourse to the law courts.

The question whether the boundary on the river Jhelum between the district and Kashmir territory should be absolutely fixed (paragraph 100) is still pending.

14. Appendix E., containing a note on secure and insecure areas, and rules for the guidance of Collectors in suspending payment of the revenue, deserves the careful study of every officer in charge of the district. It embodies the experience of an officer who knows the district thoroughly, and who had to prepare the suspension papers in a series of bad years. The present Collector of the district (Mr. Agnew) has told me that he found the rules, and especially the revised form of abstract village note-book, very helpful when he was making his proposals for suspension in the Rabi of 1902.

15. When the assessments were announced the people were told that the settlement would probably be for 20 years, the usual term of Punjab Settlements. The two previous settlements ran for the same time. The Settlement Officer presses for a 30 years' settlement on the ground that the district is almost fully developed, and that the people have in the past been troubled with frequent settlements and ought to have a rest. As to the latter argument Jhelum has fared much as other Punjab districts. There were two Summary Settlements in the beginning of British rule, rough proceedings which gave no trouble to the people. There was no survey, and the record was of the simplest description. The settlements which may be said to have troubled the people, as all Regular Settlements must do more or less, have been Mr. A. Brandreth's first Regular Settlement, and the Revised Settlements of Major Wace and Mr. Talbot. It is therefore misleading to say that the district has been under settlement for one year in every three since annexation. Nor do I think it is safe, as I have remarked before, to prophecy how far the district will develop in the next 20 years. Nevertheless, I should be glad if the term of this settlement were extended to 30 years; but the question should be considered as a whole for the Province. The latest pronouncement of the policy of the Government on the question is contained in paragraphs 18 and 19 of the Resolution of the 16th January 1902; and I gather that the Government intends giving further attention to the subject.

16. The area held on lease under the Government is not nearly so large as in the neighbouring district of Shahpur. The cases of these leases were carefully reported by the Settlement Officer, and orders were received in letter No. 1029, dated 25th October 1901, from the Punjab Government to the Financial Commissioner. The case of Mahál Amírpur is still pending, no reply having been received to this office No. 2401, dated 2nd July 1901, to the address of the Financial Commissioner.

17. The large area under forests consists partly of old game preserves of former rulers, partly of blocks of excess waste cut off from village lands in the early years of British rule. That the manner of separating off these blocks was not always judicious is

undoubted. Mr. Thomson's forest settlement was very well done, but even after it there were complaints of bad boundaries and want of access to water springs. These questions have now been carefully considered; and the orders of Government have been received on all main points in letter No. 266, dated 22nd April 1902, published with Mr. Talbot's report, in the Government (Forest) Proceedings for May 1902. The only matter that remains unsettled is that of cultivation in unclassed *rakhs*. Seeing how the majority of the forests have been formed, the principle laid down by the Government should always be borne in mind, that they are not to be treated from too departmental a view, but as held in trust for the people, and conserved for their benefit.

18. The leaders of the agricultural community are here called *ilākodārs* *ilākadārs and zamīndāri ināms.* instead of *zaildārs*. The difference is that the hereditary principle is observed so far as is consistent with the work of the administration. The *ilākadār* has duties like the *zaildār*, and can only retain his position as long as he performs these duties to the satisfaction of the Collector.

Orders have been received on the *zamīndāri ināms* in letter No. 51, dated 15th April 1902, from the Punjab Government. In these orders the Government has taken the most liberal view, and has in most cases allowed grants of the maximum value recommended.

19. The tenure of the *mālik kabza* as found in the Jhelum District is a peculiar one. Mr. A. Brandreth in his Settlement Report likened it to "a loose brick in a wall, without cement round it; and if there are many in the village, the area on which losses caused by defaulting sharers fall, is so far limited, and of course the stability of the village is rather precarious." *Mālikān kabza.* *Apropos* of the possibility that the proprietary body may call on the *mālik kabza* to accept joint responsibility by giving him a full share in the estate he uses another simile:—

"He is a passenger in a merchant ship, and like him can be called on to "help when the cry is 'all hands to the pumps'; but he has this advantage, "that if the ship is saved, he has then a claim to share in the ship and the "venture."

The tenure is something better than that of an occupancy tenant, for the *mālik kabza* does not come under the provisions of the Punjab Tenancy Act. To quote again from Mr. Brandreth: "He has entire right to all products of his land, \* \* \* \* can let his land on lease to whoever he likes, and can sell it whenever he pleases."

The one important difference between him and the ordinary landlord is that he has no share in the village common land, nor has he any voice in the general management of the village.

I agree with the Settlement Officer that Rai Bhowāni Das' view of the illegality of the *mālikāna* payments (paragraph 115) is wrong.

20. It is satisfactory to learn that the relations between landlords and tenants are good on the whole. The settlement has brought the usual crop of suits for enhancement of the rents of occupancy tenants. One hundred and seventy-two such suits has been brought up to the end of June 1901. The figures for the following three quarters are given below:—

Quarter ending.	Number of suits instituted.					
30th September 1901	...	...	...	...	...	28
31st December 1901	...	...	...	...	...	101
31st March 1902	...	...	...	...	...	38

The rules to guide officers hearing such suits (paragraph 118) should be carefully borne in mind.

21. It has been my experience that there must necessarily be a weeding out of inefficient *patwāris* in the beginning of a settlement. *Patwāris and kānūngos.* To attempt to keep them on, after giving them a fair opportunity of improving, is only to retard settlement operations.

As regards the kánúgos, when I was Settlement Commissioner I impressed on Settlement Officers that it was a matter of great importance to leave an efficient staff in the district at the close of the settlement. The district staff should not be made the rubbish heap for useless Settlement kánúgos; the inefficient should rather be kept in the Settlement staff where they can be better supervised.

22. The settlement operations lasted nearly six years. Their cost will be recovered from the increased revenue in less than three years. Considering the difficulties and drawback encountered (paragraph 101) I do not think the settlement was unnecessarily protracted. It has been a heavy charge; the survey work was especially arduous owing to the broken nature of the ground. Mr. Talbot is entitled to the thanks of the Government for the manner in which he carried out the whole work. He lived among the people, and carefully supervised all branches of the work. In his record and assessment work he has shown sound judgment coupled with a sympathy for the people. And he has left on record a mass of information about the district and its people which will be of great use to district officers.

He has brought to notice the good work done by a number of his subordinates. Lálla Bhowáni Dás, the Extra Assistant Settlement Officer, has already received the title of Rái Bahádur for his services.

Of the Settlement Tahsildars Lála Káhan Chand and Bábu R. C. Singha are especially deserving of mention; the former is above the average in intelligence; the latter is a careful and judicious officer, thoroughly trusted by the people for his honesty.

24th June 1902.

J. MONTGOMERY,  
*Commissioner and Superintendent, Ráwalpíndi Division.*



NO. 262.

FROM.

R. HUMPHREYS, ESQUIRE,

*Senior Secretary to the Financial Commissioner, Punjab,*

TO

J. F. CONNOLLY, ESQUIRE,

*Offg. Revenue and Financial Secretary to Government,*

*Punjab.*

*Dated Lahore, 6th April 1903.*

SIR,

I AM directed to forward the Final Settlement Report of the Jhelum District with a review thereof by Colonel Montgomery, Commissioner of the Rawalpindi Division, received with Settlement Commissioner's letter No. 2238, dated the 11th August 1902, which is also enclosed. I am further to convey the following remarks of the Financial Commissioner.

2. It so happens that neither Sir Lewis Tupper nor the Hon'ble Mr. Wilson had much to do with this settlement before it had reached its final stages. The several Assessment Reports were reviewed by Colonel Montgomery as Settlement Commissioner and by Mr. Thorburn as Financial Commissioner. It is on account of Colonel Montgomery's connection with the settlement that it was arranged that he should review the Final Report—a desirable relief to Mr. Wilson, whose duties are very heavy. As Commissioner of the Rawalpindi Division, Sir Lewis Tupper gave an opinion on the Chakwal and Talagang assessments, and thought them quite high enough. But when Mr. Talbot subsequently asked for a reconsideration of the orders on the Chakwal assessments, Sir Lewis Tupper, who had by that time succeeded Mr. Thorburn as Financial Commissioner, did not think there was sufficient reason to support the request. The increases upon the Settlement Officer's proposals were not very great, and he had the usual latitude in distributing the demand over particular villages, of which he very freely availed himself; the demand finally announced being for the district generally only Rs. 13,626 above his original proposals instead of Rs. 35,926 as ordered by Government. In the Chakwal and Talagang Tahsils Mr. Talbot announced assessments nearly Rs. 10,000 short of those sanctioned by Government and even proposed further reductions. As regards those proposed further reductions of Rs. 1,500 in the Lundi Patti Circle and Rs. 6,500 in the Dhanni Circle, Sir Lewis Tupper directed that a list should be made of the villages which would have got the reductions, if allowed; and that, if when sufficient experience had accumulated, the Deputy Commissioner held that in the case of any village or villages in this list the reduction noted by Mr. Talbot ought to be made, he might submit proposals accordingly. Except in the light of experience the Financial Commissioner was not prepared to re-open the matter. At pages 33 to 35 of the present report Mr. Talbot appears to defend his original proposals with considerable pertinacity. He gives his reasons in a foot-note on page 35. He is quite right in thinking that there was need for justification for the failure to assess the full amount required by the orders of Government; and the Financial Commissioner really agrees with him that the assessments are not particularly lenient. It is unnecessary and undesirable to discuss matters which have already been settled by the orders on the Assessment Reports; and the

Financial Commissioner merely wishes Government to know that he has left a way open for further representations in any particular cases should the working of the settlement show such to be required. There is a further safeguard in the orders mentioned at page 27 of the report, under which, in certain contingencies, fluctuating assessments may be introduced in the Thal.

3. Both when considering the Talagang and Chakwal assessments and on various other occasions Sir Lewis Tupper has had ample opportunities of forming a judgment on Mr. Talbot's work as a Settlement Officer. That judgment is extremely favourable. As an illustration of the reasons which induce the Financial Commissioner to regard this settlement with confidence, I am to refer to paragraphs 41 and 90 of the present report: Before submitting the Assessment Reports Mr. Talbot made a careful inspection of the whole of the villages in the tract to be reported on and formed a rough opinion as to the amount that each of them was able to pay; and in so doing he bore in mind the relevant circumstances, of which he gives a very good summary. In the distribution of the assessments over holdings he, in all cases, himself passed orders regarding the method of distribution in the presence of those interested; the file being always brought up within a convenient distance of the village. As a counsel of perfection the Financial Commissioner would like all Settlement Officers to give equally close personal attention to the two ends of the chain of settlement proceedings. Where this is done there is a strong assurance that the results will be just and stable. But it is obvious that Assessment Reports will come in later if every village is inspected by the Settlement Officer and tentatively assessed beforehand than if only a large proportion of the villages are inspected and assessment proposals framed with reference rather to general considerations applicable to the tract than to the total of the amounts which the villages respectively can afford to pay. The matter is not one for a general rule; but the procedure so patiently followed by Mr. Talbot is valuable in itself when time can be afforded for it; and this should be borne in mind in considering the question of the duration of his settlement proceedings.

4. The settlement operations lasted very nearly six years; and the reasons why this occurred will be seen from paragraphs 78 and 101 of the report. Sir Lewis Tupper quite agrees with Mr. Talbot that it was a mistake not to appoint Settlement Tahsildars in all four tahsils from the first. It is unlikely that this mistake will be repeated; for, as pointed out by Colonel Montgomery in paragraph 12 of his review, it is now acknowledged that each tahsil should have a separate Settlement Tahsildar. Mr. Talbot admits that he was hampered by want of settlement experience in the first instance. The history of the settlement appears to the Financial Commissioner to confirm his view that, whenever possible, an officer selected for a settlement should have had previous experience of settlement work as an Assistant Settlement Officer.

5. The scheme of suspensions, which is set forth in Appendix E of the report, was sanctioned by the Financial Commissioner after prolonged discussion with the Settlement Commissioner and Settlement Officer, the scheme as sent up by Mr. Wilson having been twice returned by Sir Lewis Tupper for revision. The Financial Commissioner took great pains to make it as simple as possible, and having regard to the stage at which he had to do with the Jhelum Settlement, he is fairly well satisfied with it for the Jhelum District. At the same time if a similar case were now to come before him at an earlier stage of settlement operations he would be inclined to suggest in preference to this scheme the remission system which is at the present time being proposed for the Sirsa Tahsil; and he doubts whether the rules in Appendix E, which were carefully limited to the case of suspensions only, are such as should be adopted where systematic remissions are proposed as part of the business of working a settlement. This matter is further discussed in connection with the Sirsa Assessment Report which is now in course of submission to Government. Sir Lewis Tupper, however, wishes to add a few remarks here in connection with the rule laid down in the scheme respecting the portion of the demand which should be suspended. In paragraph 15 (3) it is said that, as a rule, suspensions should be either of the whole or half the

demand, and that it is not worth while to suspend a quarter. Since he approved the rules the Financial Commissioner has come to the conclusion that as a statement of general principle this goes perhaps a little too far; and in commenting on the suspensions in another district lately he said that "it may often be advisable to graduate suspensions affecting whole villages by quarters of the demand, especially where the villages are not very numerous and time admits of their careful inspection and of close discrimination with reference to their recent revenue history and other circumstances. But when drought has occurred over wide areas and the work for hundreds of villages has to be got through in a limited time, so much discrimination may not be practicable." He would therefore inquire whether this view is approved by Government.

6. The question of the term of settlement is discussed by Mr. Talbot in paragraph 105 of the report and by the Commissioner in paragraph 15 of his review. In paragraph 8 of your letter No. 264, dated 2nd December 1899, which conveyed the orders of Government on the Assessment Reports of the Chakwal and Talagang Tahsils, it was said that the term should be fixed as proposed at 20 years provisionally. The Financial Commissioner has considered paragraphs 18 and 19 of Government of India Resolution No. 1—50-2, dated 16th January 1902, in this connection, and his conclusion is that it would be unwise and unnecessary to tie the hands of Government by announcing here an extension of the term to 30 years. Safeguards have been provided as shown in paragraph 2 above, and in the scheme of suspensions mentioned in the preceding paragraph; kharif irrigation may be brought to the Thal; and there may be railway extensions in the Chakwal and possibly also in the Talagang Tahsil. Sir Lewis Tupper thinks that, for the present, the 20 years' term should be adhered to; and that we should leave the Government of the day to determine, when the question of the revision of the settlement comes up, whether the term should be extended or not.

7. In paragraph 88 Mr. Talbot discusses the important subject of soil classification, and suggests that the procedure which he followed should be adopted in the adjoining Rawalpindi District, of which the settlement is now beginning. The Financial Commissioner is not prepared to go as far as Mr. Talbot in saying that no officer below a Naib Tahsildar in rank should enter up the soil classification, but he cordially endorses the suggestion that all officials entrusted with the work should, if possible, at the outset classify a number of fields under the eye of the Settlement Officer himself.

8. I am now to bring up to date a few subjects incidentally mentioned in the present papers. The Jalalpur Canal Project (referred to in paragraph 53 of the report) has been approved by the Government of India, and the formal sanction of Government to the estimate which amounts to Rs. 4,14,000 was intimated to the Financial Commissioner by Punjab Government letter No. 0604 I., dated 21st July 1902. The question has since entered in a new phase, and the Financial Commissioner has some hope that it may prove possible to mature a much larger project by means of which an assured kharif supply would end once for all the sad vicissitudes of the Thal.

9. The question of a fixed boundary between the Jhelum District and the Jammu State is referred to in paragraph 100 of the report. The intimation of the concurrence of the Kashmir Darbar to the laying down of such a boundary was conveyed in Punjab Government letter No. 464, dated 6th May 1902, and Mr. Townsend has been deputed to carry out the work.

10. The question of cultivation in rakhs, which was the only important question regarding them undecided when the Commissioner wrote his review, has since been settled by the orders conveyed in your letter No. 427, dated the 5th July 1902, which were to the effect that it was unnecessary to prohibit further cultivation in Rakh Phadial and that the Settlement Officer's proposals regarding cultivation in the unclassified rakhs were sanctioned. By the same letter a reduction in the fees for head-loads of fuel to six pies per load was also sanctioned. Some minor points regarding the future management of some of the rakhs in which the Financial Commissioner's recommendations were conveyed in my letter No. 555, dated 23rd July 1902, have been disposed of by your letters Nos. 587, dated 10th November, and 660, dated 19th December 1902.



11. The sanction of Government to the entertainment of a second Sadr Office Kanungo for the Jhelum District (*vide* paragraph 126 of the report) has been duly accorded and was intimated to this office by your letter No. 178, dated 16th June 1902.

12. It only remains to commend to the favourable notice of Government the work of the officers who have been chiefly concerned with the Jhelum Settlement. Mr. Talbot, like many men who take immense pains with their work, is very tenacious of views which he has formed at the cost of much labour. This defect—if defect it be—is the only fault Sir Lewis Tupper has to find with him. In patience, in industry, in sympathy with the people, in grasp of principle, and in ability to consider and deal with settlement problems Mr. Talbot stands in the front rank of the Settlement Officers of the Province. He has won an excellent reputation as a Settlement Officer, and has put a very satisfactory finishing touch to his work by the submission of an excellent and most readable report. He thoroughly deserves the thanks of Government. Such are also due to Colonel Montgomery for his supervision of the settlement as Settlement Commissioner and for his present review. The good work of Lala Bhawani Das, the Extra Assistant Settlement Officer, deserves commendation, and, as Colonel Montgomery notes, has earned for him the title of Rai Bahadur. The Settlement Tahsildars mentioned by Colonel Montgomery also merit the praise bestowed upon them.

I have the honour to be,

SIR,

Your most obedient Servant,

R. HUMPHREYS,

*Senior Secy. to the Finl. Commr., Punjab.*

Copy of a letter No. 274 S., dated, Simla, the 3rd June 1905, from the Chief Secretary to Government, Punjab, to the Secretary to the Government of India, Revenue and Agricultural Department.

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I am directed to submit, for the information of the Government of India, three copies of the Final Report of the Revision of Settlement of the Jhalum District by Mr. W. S. Talbot and of the Reviews of it by the Financial Commissioner and Settlement Commissioner and the orders of the Lieutenant Governor.

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1903.

File No. 226 of  
1903.

Serial No. 2.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.  
DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE AND AGRICULTURE.

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LAND REVENUE.

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To

THE CHIEF SECRETARY TO THE GOVERNMENT  
OF THE PUNJAB.

No. 1104—226-2.

*Dated Simla, the 13th July 1903.*

SUBJECT.

Communicates remarks on the Final Report on the revision settlement of the Jhelum district.

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G. C. Press, Simla,—No. 425 R, & A. D.—14-7-03.—100.—M. A.



NO. 1104—226-2.

FROM

J. O. MILLER, Esq., C.S.I.,  
*Secretary to the Government of India,*

TO

THE CHIEF SECRETARY TO THE GOVERNMENT  
OF THE PUNJAB.

Dept. of Rev. & Agri.  
Land Revenue.

*Simla, the 13th July 1903.*

SIR,

I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of the Final Report on the revision settlement of the Jhelum district, which was forwarded with your letter No. 274-S., dated the 3rd ultimo. The report is a record of careful and painstaking work, and the facts stated in it leave no doubt of the moderation of the proposals made for the assessment of this district. The Government of India entirely agree in the decision to fix the term of settlement at 20 years in place of 30 as recommended by the Settlement Officer. With reference to the proposal that at the end of that period the question of its extension should be considered, I am to draw attention to rule 10 of the Assessment Instructions which were approved in Sir E. Buck's letter No. 181—100-5, dated the 24th January 1893, and to point out that any extension beyond the 20 year period will require the sanction of the Government of India.

I have the honour to be,

SIR,

Your most obedient servant,

J. O. MILLER,

*Secretary to the Government of India.*



Copy of Punjab Government endorsement No. 173, dated the 15th of August 1903.

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Copy, with copy of letter under reply, forwarded to the Senior Secretary to Financial Commissioner, Punjab, for information and guidance, in continuation of Punjab Government letter No. 273 S., dated the 3rd June 1903.

S. The revised assessment rules approved by the Government of India were forwarded to the Financial Commissioner with Mr Thomson's letter No. 36., dated the 11th February 1893.

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Copy of Financial Commissioner's Office endorsement No. 5036, dated 22nd August 1903.

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Copy of the above forwarded to H. D. MacLagan, Esquire, Officiating Settlement Commissioner, Punjab, for information and guidance, in continuation of this office endorsement No. 3900, dated 23rd June 1903.

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No. 3098

Settlement Commissioner's Office.

Dated, Lahore, 5th September 1903.

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Copy of the above forwarded to *Esquire* W. S. Talbot, for information.

*H. R. J. J. J.*  
for Settlement Commissioner, Punjab.  
*mag*





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